

U.S. monitoring Iraqi arms ship

LONDON (R) — The U.S. navy is closely monitoring an Iraqi freighter loaded with arms in the Mediterranean, a British government source said Wednesday. "It is being very closely watched by the Americans," he said. A U.S. television network reported Monday that warships accompanying the U.S. aircraft carrier Eisenhower may stop and board an Iraqi freighter headed for Kuwait via the Suez Canal. NBC News said the vessel was loaded with small arms and ammunition bought in Poland. The United States and Britain have ordered their warships to intercept and board any vessel trying to break a U.N. trade embargo against Iraq over its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait. Britain was deployed a destroyer and two frigates in the Gulf with what the government source said were orders allowing them to use force against sanction-busting ships. "Any merchant marine captain who disobeyed an order to stop would get a nasty surprise," he said. But the source said: "There are no suspect ships around (in the Gulf) which demonstrates the effectiveness of the embargo so far."

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SPECIAL EDITION

In view of the situation in the Gulf region, the Jordan Times will publish a special edition on Friday for the third consecutive week.

Lawzi urges Iran to accept Iraqi offer

AMMAN (R) — The Jordanian Parliament urged Iran Wednesday to accept Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's peace proposal. "We urge you and the Iranian people to welcome this initiative because by returning relations between the two states to normal you can confront the challenges facing the Arab and Muslim nation," Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi said in a cable to Iranian leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. In a separate cable to Saddam, Lawzi said: "We hope this plan will be the cornerstone in normalising the historic ties between the two countries which are facing evil and danger from potential foreign intervention."

Air force plane crashes, pilot killed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Jordanian Air Force plane crashed and its pilot was killed on a routine training flight, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Wednesday. The agency, quoting an official of the Armed Forces, said the crash Tuesday was caused by a technical failure. It did not say where it took place. The pilot was identified as Captain Abdul Salam Suleiman Al Khattib.

Stewardesses in Kuwait 'not raped'

LONDON (AP) — Two British stewardesses reported to have been raped by Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait told British diplomats they had not been attacked and were safe and well, the Foreign Office said Wednesday. It launched an investigation after Nawal Bel Hadji, a Tunisian stewardess for Kuwait Airways, said she saw the two British stewardesses and three other foreign women brutally attacked in the hotel where they were staying in Kuwait City. British diplomats spoke to the stewardesses, who were not identified, and had informed their families here that they were not harmed, the Foreign Office said. "They told us they had not been raped or assaulted and that they are safe and well," said a Foreign Office spokesman.

Qadhafi calls for U.N. meeting

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has called for a Security Council meeting to discuss the buildup of foreign forces in the Gulf. The Libyan news agency JANA Wednesday quoted him as saying any foreign forces in the region not under the flag and command of the U.N. "are regarded as troops of colonialist invasion and should be resisted."

Bangladesh to join Gulf forces

DHAKA (AP) — Bangladeshi troops will join multinational forces in Saudi Arabia, to defend the kingdom, officials said Wednesday. A Foreign Office official said the decision to send a token military contingent to Saudi Arabia was taken by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad after a meeting with Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Thumian, a special envoy of Saudi King Fahd.

Egypt bars Iraqi ship from Suez

CAIRO (AP) — The Suez Canal Authority has refused passage of an Iraqi ship carrying food because it would not pay \$12,000 in transit fees, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Wednesday. An officer at the authority's Port Said office confirmed the "Zein Al Qaws" had been denied passage because it refused to pay its transit fees but would give no further details. MENA said that both the Iraqi ship and its agent in Port Said refused to pay the transit fees.

Saddam makes peace with Iran

Combined agency dispatches

IRAQI PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein Wednesday made peace with Iran, ending a bitter protracted conflict and freeing Iraq's one-million-strong army and Iran predicted a new era of "lasting and just peace."

In a dramatic offer, Saddam Hussein agreed to all Iranian conditions for a Gulf war peace treaty in a message he sent to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"Dear Brother — Rafsanjani... everything you wanted... has been realized," said the message carried by Iraqi media.

Saddam said he would start pulling troops out of Iran Friday, enabling him to consolidate Iraq's forces to "confront evildoers" — the Western and Arab armies building up in the Gulf in response to his takeover of Kuwait.

The offer was also seen as a way Baghdad could open a lifeline for vital commodities

through Iran as U.N. sanctions began to bite.

On the streets of Tehran, residents welcomed the news but without the spontaneous celebrations which erupted following Iran's acceptance of a U.N.-sponsored ceasefire in July 1988.

"Everyone in the office is happy because in the past week there was a general fear of a renewed Iraqi attack," one engineer said.

Speaking on Tehran Radio, Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sar-madi said:

"We are happy that Iraq finally accepted the principled views of the Islamic Republic of Iran... which will bring back lasting and just peace... to the two countries and the region."

Saddam's letter to Rafsanjani said Iraq was accepting Tehran's terms for a peace treaty:

— A withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory, to start on Friday.

— Acceptance of the 1975 Algiers treaty defining the border between the two countries.

Baghdad said it would free Iranian prisoners-of-war.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted a National Security Council

spokesman as saying Iraqi diplomats were to deliver Saddam's letter in Tehran later Wednesday.

Reconciliation between Iran and Iraq would not only eliminate an adversary on Saddam's eastern border but also would free troops from Iraq-held Iranian territory at a time of military buildup in Saudi Arabia.

Iran has condemned Iraq's takeover of Kuwait but also denounced the regional deployment of Western forces led by the United States.

Tehran Radio quoted Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karubi as saying Tuesday that a proposed visit by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz could be undertaken only after settlement of the dispute over the 1975 treaty.

In his message, Saddam did not specify the size of territory his troops will evacuate. Iran claims Iraq still holds 2,000 square kilometres, occupied in the final weeks of the Gulf war. But the United Nations says the area is half that size.

"Our withdrawal... will begin on Friday while the prisoner release also begins then. We will be the ones to take the initiative in this (prisoner release) respect," said Saddam's message to Rafsanjani.

His letter disclosed for the first

time that there had been contact between Tehran and Baghdad amid the escalating Gulf crisis.

Saddam said he had received a letter from Rafsanjani on Aug. 8, adding that he had decided to "accept your suggestion" to consider the 1975 border demarcation treaty as part of a settlement based on Resolution 598.

Saddam had rejected the 1975 treaty as a basis for a land demarcation agreement in peace talks after the ceasefire.

He has been demanding full sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which was divided between the two countries by the 1975 treaty. Shatt Al Arab, a confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, is Iraq's key outlet to the Gulf.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross said Iraq plans to repatriate a first batch of 2,000 Iranian prisoners of war Friday to start an exchange proposed as part of the peace initiative announced by Saddam.

ICRC spokeswoman Martin Haemmerli said Wednesday night the all-Swiss humanitarian agency has been asked by Iranian authorities to supervise the transfer. She said the ICRC (Continued on page 2)

Envoy briefs Regent on French position

AMMAN (J.T.) — A French presidential envoy Wednesday met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and briefed him on France's stand vis-à-vis the Gulf crisis.

Francois Poncet, who is on a tour of the Middle East, to relay French President Francois Mitterrand's policies, discussed with the Regent the latest developments in the region, and Prince Hassan briefed him on the Jordanian stand, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The Regent expressed Jordan's readiness to work towards a political solution or the Gulf crisis and for solving the other conflicts in the region, Petra said.

Prince Hassan emphasised the need for giving the Arabs a chance to reach a peaceful solution to the problem through diplomatic means, the agency added.

Poncet also held separate talks with the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Suleiman Ahmad respectively. Discussions covered the latest developments

in the Gulf and ways to find a peaceful solution as well as France's stand with regard to the U.N. Security Council resolutions on this issue, Petra said.

Lawzi and Arab told the envoy that the Jordanian people were backing His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to find a peaceful solution for the problem and expressed Jordan's opposition to any foreign intervention in the Gulf area.

The French envoy also met with Information Minister Ibrahim Izzeddin to discuss the crisis. The minister said King Hussein's current visit to the United States can be considered as an initiative towards resolving the Gulf crisis by peaceful means.

Envoys of Mitterrand also visited Syria, Egypt, Yemen and Turkey after meetings in Saudi Arabia and Tunisia Tuesday.

Political analysts said the French president, whose stance on the Arab-Israeli conflict and other regional issues has won him respect in Arab capitals, was

King meets Bush today

Combined agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein meets U.S. President George Bush Thursday for talks on the Gulf crisis and possibilities of a diplomatic solution to the problem.

The King, who arrived in Washington Wednesday accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, was to meet with U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and spend the night in the U.S. capital before meeting Bush at the vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, Thursday.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in Amman the King was working to "give peace and a dialogue a chance."

According to American televi-

sion reports, which could not be confirmed by Jordanian sources, the King, who visited Baghdad Monday for talks with Saddam Hussein before arranging the meeting with Bush, is carrying an Iraqi proposal aimed at averting war in the Gulf over Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait and the subsequent American-led foreign and Arab troop build-up in Saudi Arabia.

Before leaving for Washington Tuesday evening, the King received a message from Saddam, Jordan Television said. But the contents were not disclosed.

According to CBS news, which quoted Jordanian sources, the message stated Iraq's willingness to attend an international conference to discuss withdrawing Iraqi troops from Kuwait if Bush froze all further troop deployment in and around the Gulf.

Prior to his departure, the King contacted several Arab leaders,

including those of Yemen, Algeria, Tunisia, Sudan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) — all of whom have either opposed, abstained or voiced reservations over an Arab summit resolution condemning Iraq's take-over of Iraq and endorsing Saudi Arabia's move to invite American troops into its territory with the ostensible purposes of defending it against an Iraqi invasion.

Bush has held out little hope of a swift compromise to break the Gulf deadlock. When asked if there was "any hope at all" for a diplomatic solution, Bush said Tuesday:

"I don't see it right now, but as the sanctions begin to take effect — it's going to take a while — I would hope there would be a diplomatic solution to this crisis."

Another key topic expected to

(Continued on page 5)

Regent: King's mission crucial, Iraq-Iran peace an achievement

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday His Majesty King Hussein's current mission to the U.S. comes at a critical moment, for the situation in the Gulf and that Jordan was pursuing a diplomatic solution to the problem.

The Crown Prince, addressing a news conference held at Jordan Television and in a separate interview with ABC television, also said he could not divulge the contents of a proposal that the King was carrying with him to his meeting with the U.S. president Thursday.

Crown Prince Hassan also said the attempt to intimidate Iraq by squeezing its economy would not be effective.

He told foreign journalists that Jordan would continue to seek a "diplomatic breakthrough to the hardships" in the Gulf region.

"We are very well aware that Iraqis will not back down. We have said time and again that intimidation will not work," Prince Hassan told the news conference.

"Sanctions and embargos have not

worked in the past," he added.

Prince Hassan reiterated Jordanian concern that the sanctions will "severely harm" the Jordanian economy and he affirmed that Jordan will consult with the U.N. regarding the latitude it might have in imposing the sanctions.

He said that as a result of frozen Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets worldwide, Jordan "is starting to feel the pinch" and noted that the country was losing at least \$3 million daily because of "frozen Gulf banking transactions."

Prince Hassan said Jordan was in a unique position of being able to talk to both the United States and Iraq over the crisis and the King was working "to give peace and dialogue a chance."

"The (Iraq-Iran) Gulf war cost \$1 trillion to kill and maim over a million people. How many people will be killed and maimed by another Middle East war and how much will it cost?" he asked.

Asked whether King Hussein would ask Bush for aid, Prince Hassan replied:

"The discussion at the head of state level between the players directly involved is more over the political situation in region and how we can contain the possibility of conflict... not to talk about finance or assistance."

Following are major questions and

answers from the Crown Prince's interview with ABC television:

Q: Crown Prince: President Bush said in his press conference yesterday that the meeting (between the King and Bush) does not have an agenda but we assume that the meeting will basically address the question of — is there room for diplomacy still — either in addressing the immediacy of the military action or the invasion of Kuwait and subsequent withdrawal or to discussion of the future of that particularly complicated issue or has the development of massive military intervention in the region with all the tension that entails to foreclose that positively.

Q: Is there a message from Saddam Hussein being brought by your brother to the president?

A: I don't think that His Majesty would travelling at this crucial moment if effectively the Iraqi leadership did not have a rational approach to the future. We have heard the Iraqi leadership characterised as being dangerous that I think everyone in the region accepts. But, at the same time, I think that they see the danger of excluding a rational approach and you heard today the Iraqi initiative vis-a-vis Iran, which I think shows a major achievement as your correspondent in Baghdad was saying a few minutes ago.

(Continued on page 5)

Moscow warns of Gulf build-up

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet newspapers expressed growing concern over a build-up of forces in the Middle East Wednesday and urged Western countries to renew diplomatic efforts for a settlement with Iraq.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda said diplomacy, not a naval buildup, was the best approach to solving the Gulf crisis after Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

"The opportunities for tackling the conflict through negotiations and the United Nations were not used to the fullest extent," Pravda said. "Diplomatic channels have not been exhausted."

Soviet television showed U.S. forces arriving in Saudi Arabia and setting up defensive bases. A commentary in the Defence Ministry daily Krasnaya Zvezda issued a grave warning against any armed action.

"Even those countries which are now standing aside from events in the Gulf will find themselves in the flames of the Middle East," Krasnaya Zvezda said.

Pravda also said the U.S. naval buildup in the Gulf could result in a long-term American presence in the region.

The Soviet Union has condemned Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and called for joint diplomatic action to end the occupation. But it has resisted use of military force outside the auspices of the United Nations.

Iraq was the Soviet Union's closest Middle Eastern ally over the last 30 years, linked by a 1972 friendship and cooperation treaty. But Moscow cut its arms supplies shortly after the takeover of Kuwait and began preparations to withdraw its personnel there.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry said Baghdad has barred more than 5,000 Soviet citizens from leaving Iraq.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremitskikh said Iraqi authorities had given permission for the overland evacuation of Soviet women, children and invalids but refused to allow Soviet men to leave.

Gremitskikh said that those being refused permission to leave were not hostages but he admitted Moscow now faced the same problem as many other Western countries, whose nationals also cannot leave.

"I would not want to use the word hostages. We hope Iraq does not consider our citizens as hostages and we do not want to see them as hostages," he said.

"Iraq has given no reason. We are in the same position as other countries," he said.

Envoy in Mideast

Envoy Mikhail Sytenko, a Middle East specialist, set out Tuesday and was expected to meet the leaders of Syria, Jordan, Egypt and several other Arab countries, the spokesman said.

A visit to Baghdad "had not been ruled out," Gremitskikh said.

It was the first sign that Moscow might be prepared to mediate in the crisis.

The Soviet Union, Iraq's main arms supplier until Moscow announced a cut-off after the takeover of Kuwait, has called on Arab states to settle the crisis themselves, with no outside intervention except under the auspices of the United Nations.

Italy wants U.N. to visit Baghdad

ROME (R) — Italy said Wednesday it will ask U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to send an envoy to Iraq to check on thousands of foreigners stranded there after Baghdad's take-over of Kuwait.

Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis recalled at a news conference that Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations had stated that foreigners were perfectly free to leave his country.

"This is patently false," de Michelis said.

He said Italy, current president of the 12-nation European Community (EC), was to put the request to the U.N. later Wednesday.

The appeal to the United Nations was part of new diplomatic moves announced by Italy earlier Wednesday aimed at securing the departure of EC nationals and other foreigners from Kuwait and Iraq.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Italy would be acting on behalf of the EC "and other interested countries" following a meeting of community diplomats in Brussels Tuesday.

Iraq's ambassador to Rome, Mohammad Said Kadim Al Sahaf, was summoned Wednesday and informed of Italy's plans.

It said the steps were aimed at "protecting (EC) nationals and other foreigners... to ensure their total freedom of movement within both (Iraq and Kuwait) and the

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinians strike against U.S. troops on Arab land

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip stayed at home Wednesday in protest against the deployment of U.S. forces in the Middle East.

Palestinians planning to go to Saudi Arabia said they were barred from the kingdom, apparently in retaliation for opposing the Saudi alignment with the Americans in the Gulf crisis.

Transportation ground to a halt and stores in all West Bank and Gaza Strip cities and towns were shuttered for a strike called by the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement.

"We call for a general strike to protest the American crusader occupation of Muslims' land," a Hamas leaflet said of the U.S.-led Western military buildup in Saudi Arabia.

Hamas is one of two groups steering the 32-month-old uprising by Palestinians who have demonstrated in recent days against foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis and in support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Pictures of Saddam appeared this week for the first time ever

throughout the occupied territories and in Nazareth. Hundreds of pro-Iraqi Palestinians have staged daily demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The depth of support for the Jewish state's most feared foe among the 700,000 Arabs in Israel and 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories has surprised Israeli officials.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said during a tour of the West Bank on Tuesday he was "disappointed" to discover so many Palestinians backed Iraq, whose president has threatened to use chemical weapons against Israel if it attacked any Arab state.

Hamas said it sent Saddam a message Wednesday urging him to close ranks with Muslim states and work for "liberating Palestine."

The group, an organ of the Muslim Brotherhood, was believed to have been financed by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Palestinians said Saudi authorities prevented hundreds of them from entering the kingdom. Many, employed as civil servants or teachers, were told their services

were no longer needed.

More than 200,000 Palestinians, including thousands from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, live and work in Saudi Arabia.

Israeli officials at the Gaza Strip border crossing in Rafah told Reuters that Egyptians turn back some 20 Palestinians every day, most intending to travel to Saudi Arabia or Kuwait.

Egypt has sided with Saudi Arabia and the United States against Iraq, which seized Kuwait in a lightning attack on Aug. 2.

Palestinians said hundreds of their relatives were trapped in Jordan because of the Saudi policy.

A Gaza city doctor who worked in Saudi Arabia for eight years told his family he was refused entry last week without explanation.

"They simply told him that roads there were blocked by military traffic and there was no room for civilian vehicles," a brother said.

The engineers union in the Gaza Strip, dominated by Hamas supporters, Wednesday condemned U.S. threats to blockade Aqaba.

U.S. wants U.N. flag for warships in Gulf

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States, apparently reacting to criticism of its unilateral blockade of Iraqi shipping, suddenly expressed interest Tuesday in flying the U.N. flag to protect warships in the Gulf.

The Soviet Union, which for several years has been promoting a wider U.N. role in containing regional conflicts, called the U.S. move positive and said Moscow was open to broad discussion of joint military efforts under U.N. auspices.

Previously, the United States has been cool to the idea of U.S. generals, who command the largest foreign force in the Gulf, taking orders from U.N. military officers. The United States also has opposed Soviet military involvement in the region.

"The very fact that we are exploring this... mechanism shows we have no intention of ignoring the United Nations," a senior U.S. official told reporters. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

The last time an international military operation flew the U.N. flag was in 1950 during the Korean war, when the U.N. operation had placed under a U.S. command.

But now the United States and the Soviet Union are on the same side and the United States would like to bolster its unilateral action with U.N. support and U.N. action, Western diplomats said.

"We are prepared to consider all (military cooperation) ideas within the security council framework," said Valentin V. Lozinskiy, Soviet deputy permanent representative, after a council meeting to endorse Liechtenstein's U.N. membership.

But he told reporters "joint military action has not yet been brought for discussion" formally to the council.

"We certainly do not think using force is appropriate," he said in answer to a question about U.S. enforcement of the quarantine against Iraq. He refrained from criticizing the United States, but told questioners that in the council "the prevailing mood was for a cautious way to proceed and for the collective will to prevail."

He said most members of the 15-nation council wanted more time to determine the effectiveness of the U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq before deciding whether to call for a U.N. blockade.

Western diplomats said there was increasing council interest in U.N. action to enforce the economic sanctions, possibly moving, carefully to a U.N. blockade.

"The Americans are ready to enforce U.N. sanctions, by themselves," one diplomat said. "But they would feel much more comfortable if they were backed up by council enforcement."

The Soviet Union reiterated Tuesday it believes the United Nations is the best forum for resolving the Gulf crisis.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze was joined in that assessment by Indian Kumar Gujral, the Indian foreign minister who the news agency TASS said flew to Moscow to discuss Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

"Collective efforts are especially important in this situation," TASS quoted the two as saying. "The international community should fully use the United Nations mechanism and the potential of the Security Council."

Turkey bars ships with Iraqi cargo

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has stopped ships unloading food for Iraq and is holding in one port 12,500 tonnes of cargo destined for Baghdad, an official at the southern Turkish port of Mersin said Wednesday.

"There are only three ships at the port, two of them carrying a total of 3,200 tonnes of refrigerated meat for Iraq. We are not allowing them to unload and expect them to leave soon," Deputy Port Manager Hasan Karakus told Reuters.

He told Reuters the ships were the 7,563-tonne Moroccan freighter Irfi and the Danish 1,398-tonne Ice Flower.

The Irfi had unloaded 2,597 tonnes of its 4,304-tonne meat cargo when Turkey implemented U.N. sanctions against Iraq on Aug. 6 for its takeover of Kuwait.

Since sanctions went into effect, a total of 12,500 tonnes of various commodities for Iraq had been unloaded but were now at Mersin, Karakus said.

"We do not know what will happen to them," he said. Nine thousand tonnes of the blocked cargo was in containers and the rest was durable goods in the open, he added.

Ankara has said it will strictly observe sanctions and Karakus said: "If a vessel declares cargo

destined for Iraq, we don't even let it dock."

He said a third ship, the 12,095-tonne Mexican-flag Nautica Mexico, which brought electrical supplies for Turkey with an Iraq-bound cargo, was allowed to unload Turkish shipments only.

Before the embargo, many of Iraq's imported goods landed at Mersin or the smaller Turkish port of Iskenderun and were taken to Iraq by convoys of Turkish trucks.

Mersin normally handled from 60,000 to 100,000 tonnes of cargo a month for Iraq, transshipping it into convoys for the journey south. Cargo included an annual 75,000 tonnes of meat, Karakus said.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was asked his people to eat less and told them stockpiles were enough to defeat the sanctions.

European commodity traders say Iraq has probably got enough stocks of certain basic supplies to hold out for several months.

U.S. President George Bush has said food should be included in the ban on trade with Iraq, most of whose crude oil exports have been stopped by the sanctions.

Turkey earlier shut twin pipelines across its territory which carry more than half Iraq's oil exports.

Envoy says Kuwait had agreed to Iraqi terms

CAIRO (AP) — The foreign minister in Kuwait's ousted government says Iraq attacked Kuwait even after it agreed to write off Iraq's war debts and let Baghdad use an island for its oil operations.

Those were two of Iraq's key demands in negotiations that broke down just before Iraq sent its troops storming across the border into Kuwait Aug. 2.

Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber, foreign minister in the government the Iraqis toppled, spoke of the concessions in this week's state-owned Al Musawwar magazine, published Wednesday.

About the war debts, an estimated \$14 billion to \$15 billion accrued during Baghdad's 1980-88 war with Iran, Sheikh Sabah said: "Iraq asked us to drop the debts, and we did not object."

He said the island question, which involved Iraq's need of an outlet for its oil exports, was tougher but was solvable.

But less than 24 hours before the attack, Iraqi and Kuwaiti delegates in Jeddah, Saudi Ara-

bia, failed to reach agreement over those two problems and an Iraqi border claim. Iraq stormed out, and the assault followed.

Afterwards, Baghdad did not refer to the conflicts with Kuwait but said the attack was at the request of Kuwaitis who had overthrown the old ruling family. Iraq later announced formation

of a new Kuwaiti government, then declared Kuwait had merged with Iraq.

In his comments to Al Musawwar, Sheikh Sabah, the ousted foreign minister, said the island question had been an irritant between Iraq and Kuwait throughout the Iraq-Iraq war. Baghdad constantly asked for the use of the strategic islands Warba and Bubiyan; Kuwait constantly refused.

"Iraq asked for Bubiyan Island," he told the magazine. "We agreed to give them Warba Island instead because Bubiyan is about a quarter the area of Kuwait and because Warba is enough for Iraq's purposes."

Iraq makes peace with Iran

(Continued from page 1)

was now awaiting word from Tehran whether the repatriation could go ahead as planned.

It would be the biggest group to be returned by any side since fighting ended in the eight-year war between Iraq and Iran.

Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Wednesday lashed out at the American forces in the Gulf, calling U.S. domination over the world "hellish," Tehran Radio reported.

Speaking at religious gathering in Tehran, Khamenei said that the presence of foreign powers in the region amounted to a "fight of the world's hegemonist powers over material interests and resources."

Condemning the West, and the Arab countries which backed Iraq in the war against Iran, he asked: "Global arrogance and reactionary regimes of the region maintained an inhumane silence during the eight-year incursion against Iran."

"They are now excited by the invasion of Kuwait, and have adopted vast efforts to protect their interests."

Global arrogance is a revolutionary Iranian euphemism for the West and the United States.

Condemning the presence of American forces in the region, Khamenei said: "The global order dominating the world is a hellish establishment which has taken the fate of humanity into its own hands."

Khamenei said the United States had long been wanted to strengthen its military presence in the region, and Iraq's takeover of Kuwait had given Washington the pretext to carry out its designs.

Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam was due in Tehran Wednesday for talks with Iranian leaders. Syria was Iran's main Arab supporter during the Gulf war.

Iran also received message about the Gulf crisis from the Soviet Union and Oman Wednesday, IRNA said.

It gave no details about the messages from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Oman's Sultan Qaboos Ben Said which were handed to Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and President Rafsanjani respectively.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait is a 'southern Iraqi city'

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iraqi government is now calling Kuwait City one of the "cities of southern Iraq" after Baghdad announced Kuwait's merger with Iraq. Baghdad at first installed a "provisional government of free Kuwait," which in turn declared a "republic" just 24 hours before Aug. 8 merger. Under the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, it was known as the State of Kuwait and bridled at being called an "emirate," because in Arabic that term connotes a tiny sheikhdom or fiefdom. Iraqi spokesmen are now referring to "Kuwait, Al Jahra, and other cities of southern Iraq." Al Jahra is one of the municipalities that made up the State of Kuwait.

Shots fired near Iraq embassy in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Shots were fired Tuesday from a small boat on Bahrain's northeast coast where several embassies, including the Iraqi and Kuwaiti diplomatic missions, are sited, people who heard the gunfire said Wednesday. Diplomats said the shots had been fired in anger and that the Iraqi embassy was the target. There was no immediate official comment from Bahrain's Interior Ministry or from the embassy. Bahrainis in the nearby marina club heard the shots at around 7.45 p.m. (1645 GMT).

Network Mideast coverage boosts ratings

NEW YORK (AP) — The networks' coverage of the Middle East crisis last week boosted ratings for their evening newscasts by 19 per cent and gave them a larger average audience than prime-time entertainment shows. The increase was due to public interest in the news from the Middle East and U.S. military movements there, said NBC research Vice President Preston Beckman Tuesday. CBS, NBC and ABC evening newscasts collectively averaged a 28.8 rating and a 60 per cent share of the audience last week, compared with a 28.1 rating and 53 share for prime time programmes, Nielsen Audience Estimates showed. ABC's front-running "World News Tonight" averaged a 10.6 rating. "The CBS Evening News," whose anchor, Dan Rather, has been in the Middle East since Iraq's Aug. 2 take-over of Kuwait, averaged a 9.3. "NBC Nightly News" ran third at 8.9 average. Each ratings point represents 921,000 homes. The audience share is the estimated percentage of homes tuned to a given programme in its time period.

'Kuwaiti diplomats in Iraq jailed'

LONDON (AP) — The British Broadcasting Corporation Wednesday quoted the Kuwaiti embassy in London as saying all Kuwaiti diplomats in Iraq have been jailed following Iraq's Aug. 2 take-over of its neighbour. The embassy said eight Kuwaiti diplomats in Baghdad, including the ambassador to Iraq, and three in the southern port of Basra were arrested by Iraqi authorities last weekend and taken to prison with their families, BBC World Service reported in a radio news bulletin. It gave no other details.

Kuwaiti 'resistance' radio to broadcast

CAIRO (R) — Kuwait's Al Anba's daily appeared in Cairo Wednesday for the first time since Iraq's take-over of the Gulf state and said a resistance radio would soon start broadcasting from Egypt. Al Anba's said the new station, "Radio Kuwait," would stay on the air for two hours a day broadcasting "Patriotic programmes and calls on the sons of Kuwait to confront the Iraqi invasion." A Kuwait resistance radio, "Huma Al Kuwait" (this is Kuwait), operating from an undisclosed site south of Kuwait City, fell silent Tuesday after Baghdad Radio started transmissions on its frequency.

Sri Lankan minister to assess Gulf situation

COLOMBO (R) — President Ramasinghe Premadasa will send a minister to the Middle East to investigate whether thousands of Sri Lankans stranded following Iraq's take-over of Kuwait require assistance. Premadasa has instructed Labour Minister G.M. Premachandra "to make an on-the-spot assessment of the position of stranded Sri Lankans and to take appropriate steps to afford them relief," the president's office said Wednesday. Premachandra was to leave later Wednesday for Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and other Middle East states. About 500,000 Sri Lankans were working in the Middle East, said David Soysa, chairman of the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau. Some 90,000 were in Kuwait, about 80 per cent of them working as maids.

Bangladesh imposes austerity measures

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh has cut fuel and electricity use to beat a feared oil crisis following the United Nations sanctions against Iraq. Friday would be observed as an "oil holiday" throughout this South Asian country and all shops would have to close by 8 p.m. state-run television said. All neon signs and illuminations are banned and the number of street lights would be drastically reduced to conserve electricity, the television said. It said a special cabinet meeting Tuesday night, chaired by president Hossain Mohammad Ershad, took the austerity decision. Ershad said the Gulf crisis would not affect Bangladesh immediately but the country must be ready to face an unforeseen emergency. Bangladesh each year imports nearly two millions tonnes of petroleum products and about a million tonnes of crude oil from Gulf countries, particularly from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Energy ministry officials said that the current oil stock in Bangladesh would last till October.

Iraq bars six Japanese from leaving

TOKYO (R) — Iraqi border guards turned back six Japanese trying to enter Jordan Tuesday, Japan's foreign minister said Wednesday. Iraqi officials had also told other Japanese trying to leave that the Baghdad government would not issue departure visas, the ministry said in a statement. There are 230 Japanese in Iraq and 278 in Kuwait. Most of those in Kuwait have taken refuge in the Japanese embassy, it said. Since Iraq's Aug 2 take-over of Kuwait, 172 Japanese have fled Iraq. No injuries have been reported, the ministry said.

'\$5.5 million ransom paid for ICRC hostages'

BEIRUT (AP) — A ransom of \$5.5 million has been paid to gain the release of two Swiss hostages of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), a Beirut newspaper said Wednesday.

The conservative Al Anwar daily did not say who paid the ransom for freeing Emanuel Christen and Elio Erriqez.

It quoted sources in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon, where the two were kidnapped in October, as saying Erriqez's freedom was delayed for several hours because of the kidnappers' demand to raise the ransom.

"The kidnappers insisted on collecting the full amount and that the share of third party which worked as a mediator be added to the previous amount," the source said without further elaboration.

The paper said the ransom increase caused panic, which upset the release operation of Erriqez.

Bush said to have okayed 'secret arms' for Egypt

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush has secretly approved the transfer of more than \$1 billion worth of advanced F-16 fighter jets and anti-air missiles to Egypt in the first case of what could be a new round of arms exports to the Middle East, the Washington Post said Wednesday.

The Egyptian arms transfer, which requires congressional approval and funding, would add to Cairo's arsenal at least 40 F-16s and associated weaponry, including dozens of Maverick air-to-surface missiles and cluster bombs, the Post said.

The report quoted administration officials as saying the White House was also considering stepping up arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco and Turkey. Each of these has assisted in the U.N. ordered trade ban aimed at forcing Iraq to withdraw the troops that seized Kuwait Aug. 2.

The report, citing military officials, said the administration was considering sales of Stinger missiles to Oman and the United

Arab Emirates. One official was quoted as saying King Hassan of Morocco was seeking F-16s like those sent to Egypt but lacked funds to buy them.

The White House had no immediate comment on the report. Bush and Secretary of State James Baker had said the administration plans to waive a congressional limit of 60 F-15 aircraft that may be held by Saudi Arabia, allowing at least 12 new fighters to be deployed under Saudi control to defend against any air attack.

The sales and transfers would be aimed partly at bolstering the military forces of nations supporting or participating in the multinational Arab defence force now being assembled on Saudi oil, several officials were quoted as saying.

"Another aim is to help some of Iraq's neighbours defend against future aggression," the Post said. "The defence bureaucracy wants to sprinkle arms throughout the region," a senior U.S. official was quoted as saying.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Khalil Abdul Qader 795392, Dr. Ahmed Al Natour 653934, Farouk pharmacy 661912, Al Asma pharmacy 773336, Al Salem pharmacy 636720, Yacoub pharmacy 649495, Smeisani pharmacy 637660.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Slight rise in temperatures will occur and winds will be northwesterly mod-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	19:25	Maghreb
Tel: 773111-19	20:45	Isha
PROGRAMME ONE		
15:30	Koran	
15:45	Programme review	
15:55	Children programme	
16:10	Book of Adventure	
16:20	News summary	
16:30	Local programme	
16:40	Programme review	
16:50	News in Arabic	
17:00	Local series	
17:10	Programme review	
17:20	Local programme	
17:30	Arabic film	
17:40	News in Arabic	
PROGRAMME TWO		
17:45	Mollification	
17:55	Des Chiffres et de lettres	
18:10	La Chanson aux chateaux	
18:20	News in French	
18:30	Service	
18:40	News in Hebrew	
18:50	Varieties	
19:00	News in Arabic	
19:10	Different world	
19:20	The Return of Sherlock Holmes	
19:30	News in English	
19:40	Feature film: "Lost in London"	
PRAYER TIMES		
04:31	Fajr	
05:35	(Sunrise) Dhuha	
12:40	Dhuhr	
16:19	'Asr	

CHURCHES	19:25	Maghreb
	20:45	Isha
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetlah Tel. 810740		
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 62785		
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590		
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440		
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757		
Trinitarian Church Tel. 622366		
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541		
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543		
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331		
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261		
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751		
Armenian International Church Tel. 627961, 665326		
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295		
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932		
WEATHER		
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.		
Slight rise in temperatures will occur and winds will be northwesterly mod-		

EMERGENCIES	661111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Police	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	139
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896590
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	897467
Armenian Municipality	787111
Complaints	
Telephone Information	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	623101
Arabic Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	771111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	660100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power	

COMPANY	636381
RJ Flight Information	06-33200
Queen Alia Int. Airport	06-33200
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Al-Nasr Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amm.	6442816
Akshid Maternity, J. Amm.	6424412
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malha, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shamsi	6641714
Shamsi Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Musharraf Hospital	6672219
The Islamic, Abdal	666127/27
Al-Ahli, Abdal	6641646
Zarga Govt. Hospital	7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Amman	7751126
Army, Marja	8916115
Queen Alia Hospital	60224030
Al-Hospital	674125
ZARQA:	
Zarga Govt. Hospital	09983323
Zarga National Hospital	09991071
Rm Sina Hospital	09986732
IBRD:	
Princess Basma Hospital	02272555
Green Catholic Hospital	02272275
Rm Al-Nasr Hospital	02247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	03514111

CALENDAR

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)33200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:15	..... Riyadh (RJ)
10:30	..... New Delhi (RJ)
10:39	..... Cairo (RJ)
10:45	..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:55	..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:20	..... Larnaca (RJ)
11:30	..... London (RJ)
11:40	..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
11:50	..... Amala (RJ)
12:00	..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
20:10	..... Casablanca (RJ)
20:45	..... Rome (RJ)

Egyptian embassy denies improper treatment of Egyptian expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Egyptian embassy in Amman Wednesday denied an Egyptian press report including allegations of improper treatment of Egyptian expatriates by the Jordanian border authorities.

"A report about alleged mistreatment by the Jordanian authorities of Egyptian nationals at the crossing points, while on their way from Kuwait and Iraq, as published in the Egyptian newspaper 'Al Wafd' is totally groundless," said Charge d'Affaires here, Ramzi Allam.

Allam said that Egyptian embassy officials accompanied by teams of officials from the Egyptian Interior Ministry are stationed at the crossing points to help process the entry into Jordanian territory of Egyptian ex-

patriates; they are working in close cooperation with the Jordanian authorities in these matters. "These Egyptian officials have been reporting full cooperation with the Jordanian side which has been according the best treatment to the Egyptians upon their crossing into Jordan," Allam said.

Allam voiced deep appreciation to the Jordanian Interior Ministry and the Public Security Department for their full cooperation with the Egyptian side in dealing with matters related to the returning Egyptian expatriates.

He also appealed to the Egyptian press to be more accurate in reporting news about the expatriates to help maintain strong

Egyptian-Jordanian ties. Coinciding with the statement, the Public Security Department (PSD) circulated strict instructions to all border police stations to double their efforts in the course of providing facilities and services for all the travellers going in or out of Jordan.

"It is the duty of all policemen and police women under any circumstances to remain polite to foreigners and Jordanian citizens at all crossing points and border centres in order to reflect the best image about Jordan's hospitality," the circular said.

It appealed to all commanders of police stations at the border to see to it that the standing instructions are respected and honoured.

Crown Prince, Indian minister review Middle East, Gulf issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting Indian Minister of Energy and Civil Aviation Aref Mohammad Khan was received here Wednesday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, with whom he reviewed recent developments in the Middle East and the Gulf regions.

Prince Hassan explained Jordan's position vis-a-vis the present situation in the Gulf and called for a peaceful settlement. He also warned against continued presence of foreign military forces on Arab or Islamic lands. The Indian minister expressed his country's appreciation of Jordan for the facilities offered to the Indian expatriates returning home from Kuwait via Jordan.

There are at least 17,000 Indian nationals working in Kuwait and planning to return to India via Jordan, the minister said.

The Regent promised that Jordan would do all it can to arrange for the reception of Indian expatriates and for their safe return home.

Khan met Tuesday with the Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh to discuss facilities for the Indian expatriates arriving in Jordan from Kuwait.

He later held talks with Minister of Transport and Communications Nabil Abul Huda to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Doctors, pharmacists to ensure medical services

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Doctors Federation (ADF) will hold an emergency meeting in Tunis Sunday to discuss the dangerous situation in the Arab World brought about by the presence of American and other foreign troops in the Arabian peninsula and the Gulf region.

ADF Secretary-General, Hassan Khreis, said that the federation's secretariat would demand the formation of medical teams to help the wounded Iraqis in the event of an outbreak of hostilities.

Khreis said that the secretariat would call for the immediate withdrawal of American forces from Arab land and for settling Arab problems by the Arab countries themselves. "The federation groups doctors' unions in Jordan, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Bahrain."

CLARIFICATION

In the story, "Rush for U.S. dollars, withdrawals continues," which appeared in the Jordan Times issue of Aug. 15, 1990, a senior official was quoted as saying that "banks are under no obligation to sell foreign exchange... except upon availability. Otherwise they could have them (customers) cheques or transfer their foreign currency deposits..." The statement should have made clear that banks are under no obligation to give clients hard currency banknotes. Banks are obliged to give foreign exchange transfers and cheques in accordance with Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) regulations.

Pro-Iraqi Jordanians demonstrate in Jerash

JERASH (R) — More than 5,000 Jordanians and Palestinians took to the narrow alleys of this Greco-Roman city on Wednesday to praise Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and denounce western intervention in the Gulf crisis. "Down with America," the men and women shouted as one of the demonstrators burned a U.S. flag in protest against American-led foreign intervention in the Gulf. Referring to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, they said "Oh Mubarak you traitor... oh Fahd you collaborator." Mubarak has sent troops into Saudi Arabia to join U.S. and other western forces stationed there to protect the kingdom in case it comes under Iraqi attack.

Italy wants U.N. envoy

(Continued from page 1)

possibility of leaving those countries freely. Iraq has relaxed restrictions imposed immediately after its take-over of Kuwait to allow thousands of Arabs, Asians, Africans, Latin Americans and East Europeans to leave.

But most West Europeans and Americans have remained stranded in Iraq and Kuwait despite pledges by Baghdad that all foreigners are safe and free to leave.

Italy said Monday that as of Aug. 7 there were 3,657 EC citizens in Kuwait and 2,243 in Iraq. Most were British, French or West German.

An estimated 3,000 Americans were still in Kuwait and Iraq. Foreigners escaping Kuwait and Baghdad flooded through the desert to Jordan Wednesday — but some died in the 50 degrees Centigrade (120 Fahrenheit) heat.

Officials said 4,000 people arrived in Jordan in 12 hours. They included 2,000 Egyptians, 360 Jordanians, Syrians, Lebanese,

Pakistanis, Indians, Filipinos, Yemenis and Tunisians.

Refugees reaching Umari on the Saudi border told Reuters correspondent Rana Sabbagh they spent five days driving across desert roads.

"Some people died in the desert, others got lost and many cars were stuck in the sand," said Abu Ali, 40.

The only Europeans to cross at Al Ruweished Wednesday were 11 Poles.

Some 100 trucks, mainly loaded with grain, rumbled through the Jordanian frontier towards Baghdad.

At Umari, 180 kilometres southeast of Amman, officials said 1,000 refugees from Kuwait crossed in the last 12 hours.

Many were crammed into trucks with their babies and piles of furniture, mattresses and other possessions.

The first group of Iraqis who were stranded in Kuwait arrived home after a tortuous escape through Saudi Arabia and Qatar, the Israeli news agency IRNA said Wednesday.

Chinese minister voices his country's opposition to foreign troops in Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Chinese Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Li Lang Qing Wednesday voiced his country's opposition to the presence of foreign troops in the Middle East and the use of military power to settle conflicts and disputes.

Speaking at a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Li said that the Gulf crisis should be settled within the Arab context.

The Regent also voiced Jordan's opposition to the presence of foreign troops and said that Arab diplomacy should be given a chance to deal with the Gulf crisis.

In reviewing with the Chinese official the latest developments, Prince Hassan stressed Jordan's readiness to work towards a

peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis and to all other conflicts which have been plaguing the Middle East on the basis of total and comprehensive solutions, taking into consideration all parties' interests at various political and economic levels.

Li said that the Chinese leadership highly appreciates Jordan's role in trying to reach a political settlement to the Gulf crisis.

Before meeting the Regent, Li had signed an economic cooperation agreement with Jordan, pledging to provide a \$10 million loan for the Kingdom to help it finance part of its development schemes.

The \$10 million loan, payable over the next five years, will be spent on projects on which bilateral agreement is yet to be

reached, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that the loan, to be paid in equal instalments, will be in the form of commodities or in convertible currency, to be mutually agreed on, and with special arrangements for each project separately.

Li also signed an agreement for handing over the Al Hassan Sports City in Irbid which was constructed with Chinese assistance in accordance with the terms of an earlier agreement signed by a Chinese construction company and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

The Chinese company, which started work on the project in 1987, had shipped equipment for the project and provided specialists and engineers.

Last Saturday Li attended a

ceremony for the inauguration of the sports city which cost around \$10 million, with half of the cost provided as a loan by China.

Li had a meeting earlier this week with Dr. Ibrahim Badran, the Ministry of Industry and Trade's secretary-general, to discuss trade and economic relations and to review means of increasing the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries.

A ministry statement said later that Jordan's potato exports, which this year are expected to reach 250,000 tonnes, could reach 500,000 tonnes in 1991.

The agreements were signed at the Ministry of Planning by its Secretary-General Safwan Touqan and Li in the presence of Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Zhang De Liang and other officials.

Arrangements made for training in first aid and use of light arms

AMMAN (J.T.) — In implementation of Royal directives, provincial governors have been holding meetings and making arrangements for the start of civil defence training in all districts and assigning centres for giving training in first aid and the use of light arms.

In Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin, who chaired a meeting of local governors within the Greater Amman region said that the capital and its suburbs would be divided into 20 different zones, each of which to be supplied with teams of civil defence staff to provide training and to supply the necessary equipment.

The meeting followed Tuesday's announcement that special committees would take charge of coordinating civil defence operations which will involve creating special training centres at several schools in the capital, distribution of civil defence leaflets to school children and giving first aid instructions to volunteers.

In Salt the Professional Union announced that it had started registering volunteers to go to Iraq and fight alongside the Iraqi forces. Special meetings have been held at the Salt Cultural Club to discuss the arrangements for civil defence and to review developments in the Gulf.

The club announced that it was organising a march on Friday to express solidarity with Iraq and to condemn the American forces

present in Arab countries.

The club announced a "white march" by cars to start from the southern town of Maan and to head for the Jordanian-Saudi Arabian border where the protesters, all donning white robes, will demand to be allowed in to perform the lesser pilgrimage in Mecca.

The club's statement said that not less than 100,000 Muslims were asked to join the march to Mecca where they would hold a sit-in at the Holy Kaaba until all American troops have been forced to leave the Holy Land. "The protesters will all chant religious slogans and will refrain from uttering any slogans against any country or in support of another," the statement said.

The club gave tel. number 555954 for who-ever was interested to join the procession so that arrangements could be made for the trip and a date can be fixed.

Meetings have also been going on in Irbid, South Shubayh, Madaba, Karak, Tafleeh and Zarqa to make arrangements for protest marches or to discuss civil defence training.

The Jordanian Pharmacist Association (JPA) announced the formation of a committee to organise the registration of volunteers "to fight the Americans."

A statement said that the association had prepared a list of American drugs to be banned in

Yemenis are stranded in Amman as Saudi Arabia closes border to them

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A group of 400 Yemenis who arrived in Amman after midnight Tuesday on their own were found stranded in various mosques throughout the city, anxious to go back home.

It seems though that the Yemenis are having difficulty departing because Saudi Arabia has announced its closure of air and land routes to the Yemenis.

According to the Yemenis interviewed by the Jordan Times, the majority of whom are shopkeepers who left Iraq because work had come to a halt, "we are still waiting for news from our embassy but

they told us that Saudi Arabia was closing the border and air space to us."

According to Yemenia (the Yemen national airline), there are flights every Wednesday to Sanaa. Neither the Yemeni embassy nor the Saudi Arabian embassy here were able to comment on the situation.

"We will have to go by sea and the embassy will send our cars later," said one Yemeni in the group.

There are many people on the Iraqi border, mostly Arabs, waiting to leave either by bus or car. Another 20,000 Yemenis have remained in Iraq waiting for arrangements for their travel, the group said.

Meanwhile, panic swept over Indian citizens in Bagh-

dad Wednesday as reports focused on a group of Egyptians who took over two of the four buses ordered by the Indian embassy in Jordan to transport their people from Baghdad to Amman.

The report said that four buses from the Al Haramen Agency, left the station early Wednesday heading towards the Indian embassy. Rather than reporting to the embassy, the buses went straight to Baghdad station.

According to an official, "there was a large group of Egyptians there who must have bribed the bus drivers into taking their group, but it was not a hijack."

Another official said that reports coming in were largely

exaggerated and explained that when the four buses were leaving the premises and heading for the Indian embassy, "two of the buses got lost on the way." So far the official knows the two buses are still missing. "We are not even sure how they were taken."

Officials nevertheless have reassured the parties concerned that no Indian citizens from Baghdad, that were meant to leave for Jordan, are left behind. "The embassy ordered three more buses after discovering that the other two were missing."

Already, a group of 370 Indians waiting in Jordan for a special Air India flight heading for Bombay left Wednesday evening, officials said.

Hittin refugee camp holds rally of support for Iraq

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Anti-western slogans and placards dominated the scene at a rally held in support of Iraq in the yard of Ain Ghazal Secondary School at the Hittin refugee camp near the town of Ruseifeh Wednesday afternoon.

Several hundred people took part in the rally, chanting anti-western slogans. The governments of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and other Arab states were also harshly criticised at the rally, which was jointly organised by the Hittin Youth Organisation and the town of Ruseifeh.

Several Jordanian public figures took part in the rally, urging Arabs to unite and counter the latest threats by

the U.S. and western countries to the Arab nation.

Mohammad Al Haj, member of the Muslim Brotherhood faction in the Lower House of Parliament, urged Muslims "to rise against the foreign invaders and liberate the holy shrines in Saudi Arabia."

Al Haj called on Muslims to put a stop to "U.S.-sponsored factionalism" in the Arab World.

"The results of the Sykes-Picot agreement has to be discarded once and for all," he urged, referring to the 1916 agreement between France and Britain which divided Greater Syria into today's entities of Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon.

The other speakers were Mashhour Haditheh, a retired

army general, Mousa Ali Al-Assad, the mayor of Ruseifeh, Mohammad Dawudieh, a prominent Jordanian journalist and Dr. Nader Tamimi of the Jordanian faction of the Islamic Jihad.

The speakers urged Arab leaders to take a united stand in dealing with problems faced by the Arab Nation. They further expressed support and sympathy for Iraq in the current Gulf crisis.

"Arab pride and honour is at stake," a participant of the rally told the Jordan Times. "We have to achieve unity at all costs; then we will be able to solve our (political) goals, namely the liberation of Palestine," he added.

Similar rallies and marches in support of Iraq were organised throughout the Kingdom during the past few days.

Ministry issues detailed report on education costs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The average cost of providing education to a student in government schools has been estimated at JD 113 annually, according to a report by the Ministry of Education published Monday.

It said that the estimates were based on a study of the schools' needs in the coming years in implementation of resolutions issued by the 1987 national educational conference.

Dr. Majed Bader, head of the Statistics Department at the Ministry of Education, said the estimated cost took into consideration interest on loans to the ministry which carries out various building and other projects, wear and tear of materials, devaluation of the price of school buildings, and overhead expenses which include salaries of teachers and officials, rent and allowances for teaching staff in various areas of the country.

According to Dr. Bader, a student in the primary stage costs an average JD 70 annually, a student in the preparatory stage JD 138 and a student in the secondary stage JD 215. The total cost of vocational training at schools is normally higher than academic schools, reaching an average of JD 934 per student a year in the hotel management stream, JD 864 for a student in the agricultural stream, and JD 253 for each student in any of the other vocational streams: nursing, industry and commerce.

Dr. Bader attributed the rising cost of vocational training to the increasing cost of equipment and

educational aids needed for vocational centres.

In February this year, the Ministry of Education said that it would spend JD 40 million from now until 1998 to equip schools with technical facilities, including laboratories and on setting up centres for manufacturing educational aids for schools.

In June 1990, the Council of Ministers gave its approval for the construction of 30 school buildings as a first stage in a programme which entails setting up 180 schools by 1992.

It said that altogether a total of 67 schools would be constructed during 1990 and the Ministry of Education has already announced tenders for the construction of some of them.

The ministry estimated the cost of building 30 schools at \$12 million.

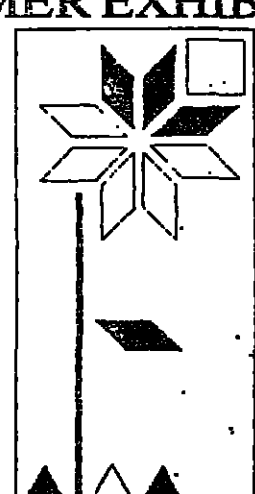
According to the June statement, 100 school buildings were under construction, of which 40 at least will be ready to receive students in the 1990-1991 scholastic year.

Drive carefully!
Traffic
can be hazardous

Under the Patronage of
Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein

IN COOPERATION WITH POOR AL-HUSSEIN FOUNDATION
AND THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
AND FUNDED BY U.S.AID

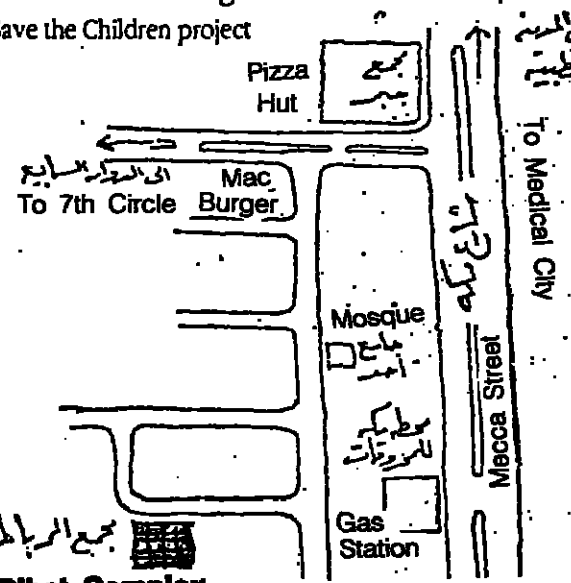
**THE HANDICRAFT
SUMMER EXHIBITION**



quilts leather handbags beachbags
collector's dolls picture frames olive oil soap

Thursday, 9 - Saturday 18 August, 1990
11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Al-Ribat Center

Jordan River Designs
a Save the Children project



Pizza Hut
Mac Burger
To 7th Circle
Mosque
Gas Station
Ribat Complex
To Medical City
Mecca Street

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King sends reply cables

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent reply cables to Saudi King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz and Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain who congratulated the King on the anniversary of his accession to the throne. The King thanked the two leaders and wished them good health and happiness and their peoples further progress and prosperity.

Regent congratulates Indonesia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of congratulations to Indonesian President Suharto, congratulating him on his country's national day. Prince Hassan wished the president continued good health and happiness and the Indonesian people further progress and prosperity.

Cabinet endorses protocol

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Wednesday endorsed a cultural cooperation protocol between Jordan and Turkey for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992. The protocol provides for increasing the volume of bilateral cooperation in cultural fields.

Councils to hold solidarity rally

AMMAN (Petra) — A public rally will be held at the Palace of Culture on Thursday morning to voice solidarity with Iraq. The rally, to be attended by heads of municipal councils in Jordan, is to be held under the motto "Confronting the New Imperialist-Zionist Aggression Against the Arab World."

Bank approves loan for Fuhals municipality

FUHAIS (Petra) — Cities and Villages Development Bank Wednesday approved presenting a JD 60,000 loan for Al Fuhals Municipality to complete the final stage of Al Fuhals House. Fuhals Mayor Farouq Jreisat said the tender will be announced in the coming few days.

People's Army batch graduates

IRBID (Petra) — A new batch of the People's Army recruits graduated Wednesday at Yarmouk University. Irbid Governor Jawadat Al Shoul distributed awards to winners in shooting and other military skills competitions.

35,000 in Maan unemployed

MAAN (Petra) — A total of 35,000 Jordanians in the Maan district are unemployed and seeking jobs and the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) is trying to help them find jobs, according to Ahmad Atwan, VTC's director general. He made the statement at a general meeting held at Maan Municipality where discussion dealt with vocational training course for the job seekers in the governorate to replace non-Jordanians.

Jordan receives sheep vaccines

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has received half a million doses of vaccine to provide immunity to sheep in Jordan against foot and mouth disease. The gift came from the Ministry of Agriculture in Iraq, according to Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat. Arabiyat said that the gift was worth \$100,000 and he voiced Jordan's appreciation to Iraq.

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975

Facsimile: 661242

PEGGY JEAN IS GONE, LINUS! SHE GOT MAD! SHE SAID I DIDN'T TRUST HER.

I LOVED HER, LINUS, AND NOW I'LL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN...

GOLF IS A CRUEL GAME, CHARLIE BROWN.

WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH IT?

IT'S ALL I COULD THINK OF TO SAY.

8-7

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Jordan Times WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Aug. 16, 1990 [A]

Volker Ludwig and GRIPS in Berlin — Pioneers of the children's theatre

By Andreas Rossmann

BERLIN — For a whole generation of Berliners, the Hansa-Platz underground station is at the top of their theatre list. Here, as pupils or pre-school pupils, they made their first acquaintance with an art unknown to their parents: "Realistic theatre, in which children recognise themselves and their environment, which stimulates their imagination and increases their self-confidence. GRIPS means: Realisation through laughter."

With this pretension, the theatre, which moved into a former cinema in 1947, had given itself this programmatic title two years before — as a radical reaction to the Grimm Brothers, whose dramatised and usually glossed fairy tales dominated the repertoire for children at the time.

Instead of Little Red Riding Hood or Rumpelstiltskin, the plays now had titles such as *Daft is Daft*, *A Party at Papadakis's* or *Max and Milli*. With these and many such others, Volker Ludwig, a cofounder of the GRIPS Theatre, which he still runs, revolutionised the children's theatre, in collaboration with authors such as Rainer Hachfeld, Detlef Michel, Stefan Reinher and Reiner Lückner. They have made an enlightening utility-theatre out of a transforming magic box.

The beginnings of this "different" children's theatre goes back much further, however, and are to be found in cabaret and the student movement. Volker Ludwig founded the "Reichskabarett" in 1965. "The idea of performing plays for children came from our close association with the student move-

ment. It came into being at the same time as the 'Kinderläden' (kindergartens based on anti-authoritarian principles)," he says.

The first premiere took place in June 1966: *The Devil With the Three Red Hairs*. Something other than a fairy tale was still inconceivable at the time, even if many features were taken over from cabaret.

It was not until 1969 that Volker Ludwig, together with Carsten Krüger, wrote a realistic play with an everyday background, with "imperfect" parents and a marked anti-authoritarian tendency: *Maximilian Pfeiferling* is the turbulent story of a young lad who fights against injustice and succeeds in encouraging the family to practise solidarity and civic courage. In summer 1971, after three further plays, the ensemble, although successful, gave up cabaret and devoted their efforts entirely to children's and youth theatre. The political movement had fragmented; target groups and groundwork were the new maxims for their artistic activity.

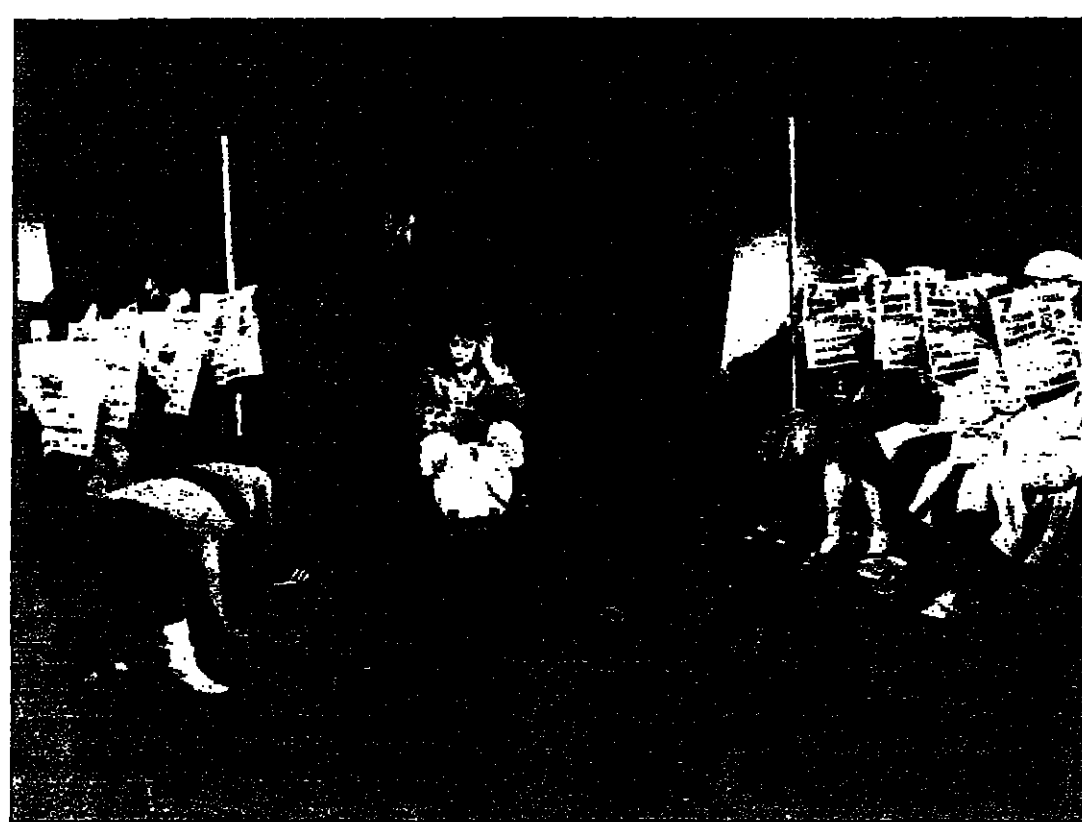
Although Volker Ludwig, who was born in Ludwigshafen/Rhine in 1937 and grew up in Thuringia, didn't exactly inherit the makings of a cabaret artist, there is evidence to this effect on his birth certificate: his real name, Eckart Hachfeld, is also that of his father, a well-known cabaret artist. When the family moved to Berlin in 1952 and young Volker began writing squibs, songs and satires, he had to adopt a nom de plume.

"Take two first names," a female editor advised him. "That's the most unvain thing to do," Volker Ludwig, as

Eckart Hachfeld Jr. now styled himself, did so well that he was able to afford a car on graduating from high school. He provided the Berlin "Stachel-Schwein" (cabaret ensemble) with their first numbers in 1959 and, shortly afterwards, the "Kom(m)ödchen" in Düsseldorf and cabaret artist Wolfgang Neuss. He chucked his German and art history studies after nine semesters and, after completing a traineeship at a radio station, became a freelance writer.

About half of the more than 40 plays performed by the GRIPS Theatre, and almost all the songs (over 300), were written by Volker Ludwig himself. The Goethe Institute has dispatched him three times around the globe, his plays have been translated into 30 languages; his influence extends as far as Brazil, India and Australia. Various troupes have been sent to his seminars and workshops; they have adapted GRIPS plays and taken them as a model for their own productions. This pioneer work was only gradually recognised in Germany; it constantly came up against prejudices and resistance. Today, the GRIPS Theatre receives subsidies to the tune of DM-2 million; its annual budget comes to DM 3.6 million.

Volker Ludwig and "his" GRIPS Theatre have experienced their greatest success outside the children's theatre with their musical *Linie 1* (Line 1). It is a station-by-station drama in the lexical sense; Birger Heymann composed the music. The action takes place in the Berlin underground and relates — in a somewhat free and trivial manner — a variation on the



Linie 1 is one of the most successful theatrical productions by the internationally famous Berlin GRIPS Theatre. It tells the story of a country girl seeking her prince

theme of "country girl seeks her prince charming."

But in so doing, the production is captivating because of its rhythm and its abundant charm, its joie de vivre and the infamous "Berliner Luft" (Berlin atmosphere).

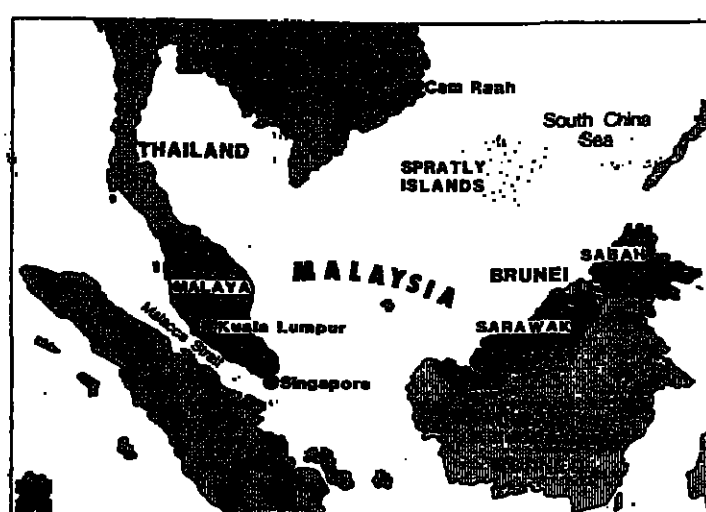
Linie 1 was first put on the rails at the Hansa-Platz in April 1986. Since that time it has rolled over 50 or more stages at home and abroad.

Reinhard Hauff, who filmed the musical twice (in 1987/88 and 1988/89), has promoted the production to the hit of the season.

The triumph has not gone to the heads of the troupe and

its author, however. After writing "Eine Linke-Geschichte" in 1980 — which is also the story of the (Berlin) left-wing and its part in his own biography — Volker Ludwig continued along the same lines he had followed with *Linie 1*: From Today You Will Be Called Sara, was completed in 1988 in collaboration with Detlef Michel. The 33 scenes in the life of a Berlin Woman are based on an autobiographical account, entitled *I Wore the Yellow Star*, by Inge Deutsch, a journalist.

And, in spring 1990, the GRIPS Theatre produced a play in which Volker Ludwig and Reiner Lückner are following hot on the heels of recent history. *Auf der Mauer Auf der Lauer* (Lying in Wait on the Wall) recounts the fate of a girl who moves with her mother from East Berlin to West Berlin (via Prague) in September 1989 where she experiences the fall of the Wall on Nov. 9.



Malaysia — the land of many titles

By Kenneth L. Whiting
The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Every Malay who is anybody has a title, from the Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong — that's the king — to each haji and haji who makes the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

Tun, Tan Seri and Datuk are among the many hereditary or conferred titles borne by leading citizens.

Proper ways of addressing a Malay are diverse and complicated. Family names are relatively unimportant as long as the title is used correctly. Improper usage causes offense.

Some titles are gained at birth, others given as rewards for service to government or nation. To the ordinary Encik (mister), titles and forms of address can be confusing.

The king's title means, approximately, "This most glorious majesty who is raised most high." In English, "your majesty" is usually enough. The queen, or Seri Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong, also is "your majesty."

Malaysia is unique in having a monarchy that rotates among royal families. Nine of the 13 states have royal families, whose leaders take turns being king of the entire nation for five years.

Passing the throne around solved sticky protocol problems when Malaysia shed colonial ties with Britain in 1957. None of the nine state rulers would have been accepted by the other eight as permanent king and Tunku Abdul Rahman, who was prime minister, devised the method of sharing glory.

Children of the state rulers usually are called Tunku or Tengku, loosely equivalent to prince or princess. Tunku Rahman, for example, is of royal descent.

Nikz and Megats are those with royal blood on the mother's side. Syeds and their female counterparts, Sharifahs, claim to be directly descended from the Prophet Mohammad, from royal families of the Malay archipelago, or both.

A man honoured for distinguished service to the nation becomes a Tun and his wife a Toh Puan. The title is Malaysia's highest order of chivalry, limited to 25 living men.

When Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mahamad retires, officials say, he probably will become Tun Mahathir. He is a medical doctor and was made a Dato Seri years ago for his contributions to public life.

The non-hereditary title Tan Seri is given to the recipient of either of Malaysia's two second-highest orders of chivalry for non-royals.



Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad

Dutuks, and the variants Datuk Seri and Dato, are numerous and their wives are Datins. The title is non-hereditary and its basic meaning is grandfather.

In higher social circles, practically everybody is a Datuk, whether Malay, Chinese or Indian.

A common compliment is to call a man Dato before he has been so designated. Fek object, except the very modest.

The highlight of the king's official birthday, celebrated on the first Wednesday of June, is the conferment of hundreds of awards and titles. Hundreds more are issued each year by the 13 states, with Datuk in the majority.

Tuan means sir in Malay, and is used informally to address an elderly person or someone of prominence or wealth. Tuan Yang Terutama, the Malay translation of excellence, is applied to heads of diplomatic missions and the governors of the four states without royal families.

Puan, or madame, often is used to refer to married women. A single woman is called Cik.

Haji and Hajah are the titles for men and women who have made a pilgrimage, to Mecca.

In Malay usage, Bin means "son of" and Binte means "daughter of." The part of the name before it is the given name, and the part after is the name of the person's father.

Names can be as confusing as titles. The prime minister is Mahathir Mohamad, the information minister is Mohamad Rahmat and thousands of others spell the name Mohamat, Muhamat, Muhammad and even Mohd.

In 1988, the government decreed the official version of the prophet's name to be Muhammad. Those already born and named with other spellings were excused from compliance.

Paper — a magic material

By F.J. Bröder

IT is one of man's leading conveyors of culture — and yet it is treated day by day by everyone as if it were nothing: paper is patient and trivial — yet indispensable and irreplaceable. It has only been known in Germany for 600 years — ever since its manufacture was started by Ulman Stromer from Nuremberg.

He established the first paper mill in Germany in 1390, an event considered so important that there was an illustration of it in the "Schedelsche Weltchronik" of 1493.

In honour of paper and its 600th anniversary, a major art-historical exhibition is being held at Faber-Castell Castle in Stein, near Nuremberg, where it will go on tour in other cities in the Federal Republic. The organiser of the exhibition is Jürgen Franzke, from the Museum of Industrial Culture, Nuremberg.

Entitled "Zauberstoff Papier", the exhibition is being financed entirely by sponsors; the accompanying booklet — which is more detailed and informative than the actual exhibition — describes the development of paper and its diverse uses for mankind.

In the beginning, man "wrote" on rock walls, pieces of bark, papyrus or parchment — until paper came from China to Italy via the "silk route." This was taken up in the Central European trading metropolis of Nurem-

berg where rags were crushed in paper and rag mills, thus creating the first paper. This is demonstrated at the exhibition in the form of portrayals and illustrations, models and traditional equipment, and, above all, attention is drawn to the artistic and characteristic watermarks of paper — of great importance nowadays for establishing the date of the paper.

It was not until 1789 — the year of the French Revolution — in other words, four hundred years later, that the first paper machine was developed in France, to this day the archetype of mechanical paper production.

One special section of the exhibition shows what has been done on paper, this highly valuable, almost artistic material; entitled "The Art of Writing", examples of precious miniatures and manuscripts, coloured initials and Asiatic calligraphy are displayed. Naturally, writing utensils — from quill to brush, pencil to fountain pen are also dealt with.

The step from writing to printing on paper, first undertaken by Gutenberg in Mainz with his movable type, was, admittedly, only small — but of great significance. The Gutenberg Bible offers typical examples of this — as do woodcuts and engravings, and all imaginable printed-illustration techniques — up to the present-day surface printing, rotogravure and planographic printing. And the fact that

Nuremberg is cultivating its tradition is not least shown by its rotogravure industry — the largest on the continent of Europe.

The Nuremberg exhibition — somewhat sparsely appointed here and there — shows how paper can provide the means for an artistic arrangement or a thoughtlessly used accessory: from paper handkerchief to artistically-decorated napkin, from tablecloth to envelope — the spectrum of paper usage and wastage, particularly evident in the packaging industry, in everyday life is broad.

The exhibition's display of cartons and folders, boxes and carrier bags, cases and paper containers of every type clearly illustrates that life is just as valueless without paper as the scrap of paper this is being written on — or being read. One is constantly surrounded by paper at the exhibition. The latter's architecture, the booths and screens, are made of cardboard in all possible shades, colours and variations.

One section of the exhibition is devoted to an art which would not get beyond intention and idea without paper. It is here that the exhibition lives up to its claim: "Paper — a magic material" with attractive examples, and transports us into another world: Beuys merely cut a hole, the silhouette of a sheep's head, in a piece of paper and created art, Christo wrapped a statue in paper,



Woodcut showing work in a paper mill, Frankfurt, 1568.

elevating it to the status of a work of art, Ellsworth Kelly, and Kenneth Noland experimented with paper dipped in paint and then pressed.

Andreas Von Weizsäcker's environment "Großstadt-Musikanten" (Big City Musicians) takes noise-producers — such as car-exhausts and radio, telephones and record players, television sets and loudspeakers — ad absurdum: they are all life-size, made of paper — and silent.

A happening with "Paper Music" — torn, shaken, crumpled and hung in the wind — is still to come, just as Miro Dopitas's featherweight paper figures are still not floating upwards in the marble stairwell of the castle, and the large paper letters in the castle grounds are still not turning around on their axis.

Last but not least, one unique feature of this exhibition is the accompanying booklet:

a printing masterpiece by Buchdrucker W. Tümmels, it contains individual contributions on 18 different sorts of paper; a haptic as well as an optical pleasure.

There is little room for boredom at this exhibition — which is anything but "bookish"; nevertheless, anyone feeling weary can rest a while on the seating accommodation — made of paper — IN Press.

THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK

My life's dream has been a perpetual nightmare — Francois Marie Arouet de Voltaire, French writer (1694-1778).

The sun also shines on the wicked — Seneca, Roman scholar (about 54 B.C. - 39 A.D.).

Art may make a suit of clothes, but nature must produce a man — David Hume, Scottish philosopher (1711-1776).

To recommend thrift to the poor is like advising a man who is starving to eat less — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born writer (1854-1900).

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday Aug. 16

8:30 A Different World

Our hero is running for the student-government election. After a few hassles he decides to withdraw from the race, but upon hearing Rev. Jesse Jackson's speech he changes his mind.

9:10 Sherlock Holmes

The Devil's Foot
While Mr. Holmes is enjoying his vacation in Cornwall, he is asked to look into a difficult case by a friend who had one brother killed and one gone mad. Holmes investigation proves to be a clever one.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie of the Week Jailhouse Rock

Starring: Elvis Presley and Judy Tyler
Elvis's classic film captures the legend all his nostril-flaring, pre-army glory. Elvis learns to pick a guitar in jail later becomes a big success, and with success his character changes.

Friday Aug. 17

8:30 Coach

Coach "Hayden" is being overprotective of his daughter "Kelly" and even asks her to drop her boyfriend "Stewart." Kelly fights back ferociously and announces her intention of getting married to Stewart.

9:10 Midnight Caller

Protection
Jack wants to protect Perry and his wife, 2 eyewitnesses to a crime. Perry is somewhat uncooperative and is murdered; and Jack is unable to prevent his wife from avenging her husband's murder.

10:00 News in English

10:20 No More Dying Then

The boy "John" is kidnapped; inspector



Jack Killian (Gary Cole) and Devon King (Wendy Kilbourne) in *Midnight Caller* Friday at 9:10.

"Michael" is on the case; in the course of the investigation Michael gets to like John's mother. They fail to trap the kidnapper and an 11 year old girl is found dead.

Saturday Aug. 18

8:30 Joint Account

Belinda is having problems with her boss, David arrives in the nick of time to stop Cupid from shooting his arrows at his wife.

9:100 Local Programme

9:30 Classical Music

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

Shooting Stars
Three teenagers kidnap a famous football star in Hamburg and ask for a ransom, but our star manages to escape and refuse to turn them in since they are so young and inexperienced.

Sunday Aug. 19

8:30 Hey Dad

9:10 Path of the Rain God

10:00 News in English

10:20 Hunter

Unfinished Business
Hunter and McCall are not getting along fine; it probably has something to do with the arrival of

similar method to make money.

9:10 Heart of the High Country
Ceci's daughter is back; a tragic accident kills many miners. The company goes bankrupt, Ceci's third husband dies and Ceci goes back to the farm where she finds a surprise.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Paradise

The Promise
While Ethan and his nephews lose their way in the desert, they come across a dying woman and make for a promise to get her baby to Paradise. They make good on their promise.

11:10 Allo Allo

Michelle comes up with a plan to sneak the British pilots out of the country ... with a big helium balloon.

Wednesday Aug. 22

8:30 A Family For Joe

Nick's Heart
Joe discovers that Tracy, Nick's friend, is keen on drinking, and doesn't take kindly to that. Joe tries violence and when that doesn't work, he resorts to lecturing and it works.

9:10 Documentary

All Our Children
The documentary discuss the case of six families, from different countries, expecting babies to be born and all the problems related to that. Everyday a quarter of a million babies are born around the world.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Intimate Contact

Ruth decides that it is better to fight the disease in public instead of concealing it. So she adopts a plan to fight the disease and goes out of her way to enforce her plan.

another female detective on the scene.

Monday Aug. 20

8:30 Perfect Strangers

Here Comes the Judge
Larry is accused of misusing the paper's material resources. The management forms a probing committee, and Larry promptly summons Balki as a witness to his innocence.

9:10 Murder She Wrote
Benedict Arnold Slept Here
When "Telly Adams" dies her house is swarmed with relatives looking for buried treasures valuable documents, and sure enough a murder is committed.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Mystery Movie

Murder, Smoke and Shadows
Starring: Peter Falk
Alex is a young and intelligent film producer with a promising future. An old friend of his shows up with an incriminating evidence and spoils his ride on success, Alex kills him and the murder brings in Colombo.

Tuesday Aug. 21

8:30 Golden Girls

One for the Money
Sophia is telling the rest about how, back in the 50's, she managed to gather extra money to buy a TV set. This prompts them to think of a

Macho Man

By E. Yaghi

Mansour is a hero. He is a gallant model of bravery, a fine example for neighbours, relatives and most of all his small children. He is very proud of his self-imposed outstanding record of achievement as a dutiful loving husband. Unfortunately he lacks a plaque or memorial in his name to commemorate his good deeds.

He is almost a Rambo-type person although he fails somewhat in the physical particulars as he is kind of puny. But he does have huge muscles which though invisible can be seen by cat scan, bulging inwardly somewhere in the vicinity of his little tiny brain.

What made Mansour such a hero? What made him so famous? What made him the envy of relatives and neighbours alike? What is the secret behind macho man? It is all quite simple. He knew who to pick on, who to fight with, on whom to prove his bravery. He chose his wife as his combatant. Against her, he planned strategic battles. He launched offensive attacks and was a mastermind in striking dangerous missions towards the fearful enemy, his helpless wife.

One night, in the heat of battle and peak of victory, Mansour sent a flying missile (formerly known as "shoe") in the direction of his wife's head. Said missile was successfully on target and mission accomplished. The flying missile cut deep into her forehead. Then macho man, to ensure victory, punched his mate with hard blows that he had perfected in his many years of conflict with his eternal foe.

When his wife left in defeat to her father's house, Mansour was satisfied and very pleased with himself. He threw out his small children after her, for he didn't believe in dealing with the enemy. He was really a tough guy! He strutted around his empty house in pride and confidence, eagerly awaiting the next day when he could boast of his clever war manoeuvres and how he finally ousted his enemy from his territory. The blood that congealed on the cold floor was only proof of his extreme courage in the face of danger, and to top it all, he emerged from the battle

without a scratch.

Next day, Mansour bragged with pride to anyone who would listen. He became the talk of neighbours and relatives and of course any fault in his marriage was certainly his wife's, because she was a woman and what are women anyway? Some thought they were somewhere in an undefined "Twilight Zone" between animal and human. Quite ridiculous! She had shared a house with him, had her own key (imagine), was married (how lucky), and still alive (what nerve). The very idea! Some women never appreciate their many blessings.

When one concerned relative asked macho man why his wife was evicted to her father's house he heatedly remarked, "well, she's very stubborn and when I beat her, she cusses me."

Naturally, no woman should ever cuss her husband, not even if he kills her. Such flagrant violation of the international code of marriage. Any decent woman would appreciate her husband's beatings because that meant he loved her and cared about her and beating was his way of showing his concern. After all, he wanted to make her a better person, more in the direction of perfection, following in his perfect footsteps. A good wife would thank her husband after each severe beating, dry her tears and wash away the blood and go on with the cooking and cleaning as any housemaid should.

Mansour is contemplating another marriage. It must be soon. He is bored without combat duty. He needs new action. Rumour has it that he might marry the desperate maid across the street, but she couldn't be that desperate, could she?

Macho man can still be seen strutting up and down streets. Very brave, very proud, yet waiting for a trophy or some sort of medal for his gallantry. Every once in a while he flexes his invisible inward muscles hidden in his head and he feels very macho. His wife and children remain ousted and await their final judgement.

In spite of the fact that he had to pay for broken windows and doors where he rents, Mansour doesn't care about meager material loss for such is the sacrifice of battle and this is the stuff heroes are made of.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, Aug. 16

1953 — Attempted royalist coup begins in Persia.

1956 — First London conference to discuss Suez Canal is boycotted by Egypt's President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

1960 — Britain grants independence to crown colony of Cyprus, with Archbishop Makarios as president.

1962 — Agreement is signed in London for Aden to enter Federation of South Arabia. Algeria is admitted to Arab League. Mont Blanc tunnel in Alps is completed as French and Italian workers meet under Western Europe's highest peak.

1964 — Major General Nguyen Khan takes over presidency of South Vietnam, ousting Major General Duong Van Minh.

1969 — Britain completes troop movement into Northern Ireland to help quell fighting between Roman Catholics and Protestants.

1972 — Morocco's King Hassan II escapes assassination attempt by Moroccan Air Force jets over Rabat.

1974 — Turkish invaders of Cyprus complete division of island into two areas and declare ceasefire.

1986 — Protesters attack government buildings, burn vehicles and clash with authorities in Pakistan, and 12 people are wounded during scattered riots.

1987 — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa says his outlawed labour movement is still alive and active.

1988 — Burmese authorities release 51 people arrested during previous week's anti-government demonstrations in Rangoon.

Friday, Aug. 17

1989 — Palestinians in Gaza Strip call for two-week boycott of jobs in Israel to protest computerised identity cards for day labourers.

1912 — Britain sends note warning China against sending military expedition to Tibet.

1920 — Romania joins Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia in alliance which becomes Triple Entente.

1943 — Allied forces gain complete control in Sicily in World War II.

1945 — Dutch refuse to recognise independent Indonesia Republic. Provisional French President Charles de Gaulle commutes death sentence of World War II collaborator Henri Philippe Petain to life imprisonment.

1964 — Congolese Premier Moise Tshombe appeals to five African nations to help put down rebellion in the Congo.

1974 — Turkish ceasefire that was declared on Cyprus breaks down with new thrust southward by Turkish invaders.

1976 — Earthquake that caused tidal wave on Philippine island of Mindanao leaves estimated 8,000 people dead or missing.

1985 — Auto packed with dynamite explodes outside crowded supermarket in Lebanon's Christian east Beirut, killing at least 50 people and wounding 80.

1986 — Rescuers continue evacuating by boat more than 100,000 people marooned in flood-swept southeastern

India.

1967 — Former Nazi deputy Fuehrer Rudolf Hess dies at age 93.

1988 — Pakistan's President Zia Ul-Haq and U.S. Ambassador Arnold Raphel are killed when their Pakistani military plane explodes.

Monday, Aug. 20

1526 — Forces under Italian Cardinal Pompeo Colonna plunder Rome, forcing Pope Clement VII to take refuge in castle of St. Angelo.

1641 — Britain signs treaty of pacification with Scotland.

1791 — Alaska is discovered by Danish navigator Vitus Jonas Bering.

1886 — Successful military coup is launched in Sofia, Bulgaria.

1908 — Belgium's King Leopold II hands over the Congo to Belgian government.

1918 — British offensive on Western front opens in World War I.

1946 — Allied control commission dissolves Wehrmacht in Germany.

1953 — France deposes Sultan of Morocco.

1955 — Anti-French riots break out in Morocco.

1962 — Malta requests independence within British Commonwealth on breakdown of talks for financial aid.

1963 — Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact nations invade Czechoslovakia to crush Alexander Dubcek's liberal regime.

1971 — Leaders of Libya, Egypt and Syria sign constitution designed to bind their countries in Federation of Arab Republics.

1975 — U.S. spaceship bound for planet Mars is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

1976 — South Africa announces new concession, giving urban blacks full title to land on which they live.

1986 — Gunbattle erupts between police and anti-government protesters in Islamabad, Pakistan, and at least one man is killed.

1987 — Treasure hunters salvaging objects from doctored luxury liner Titanic scoop up satchel containing a fortune in jewels.

1988 — Thousands of Burmese rally in Rangoon to pressure the government to restore multi-party democracy.

1989 — Soviet Union reveals deadliest weapon in its air force arsenal — needle-nosed bomber which NATO calls the Blackjack.

Tuesday Aug. 21

1940 — Leon Trotsky, Communist revolutionary, dies of wounds inflicted by assassin in Mexico City.

1968 — Soviet forces occupying Czechoslovakia seize liberal Communist leader Alexander Dubcek.

1983 — Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino is assassinated as he steps from plane in Manila after three years of self-imposed exile in United States.

1985 — Leftists march on Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos' palace as tens of thousands of other Filipinos stage largest anti-government protests in a year.

By the Associated Press

Weekend Crossword

Edited by Herb Etkenson

QUIRKY QUOTES

By Jeanne Wilson

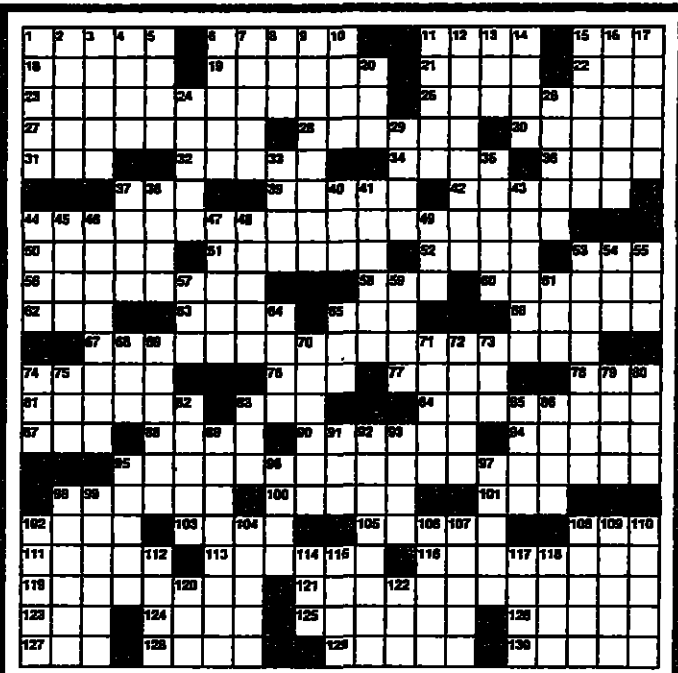
- ACROSS
- 1 Choices
 - 6 Nor. Kings
 - 11 In the distance
 - 15 — canto
 - 18 Abelian native
 - 19 Finely corded fabric
 - 21 Zola novel
 - 22 — pro nobis
 - 23 Driving instructor
 - 24 Student?
 - 25 Castle cell
 - 27 Wake-up call
 - 28 — Seven
 - 29 Against — (Aeschylus)
 - 30 Disagreeable relatives?
 - 31 Tarzan actor
 - 32 Resource
 - 34 Bone: pref.

- DOWN
- 1 Enslavement
 - 2 Province
 - 3 Shakespeare
 - 4 spirit
 - 5 Know-how
 - 6 Petal's place
 - 7 — Valley, CA
 - 8 Gemstones
 - 9 Earring supports
 - 10 Spring no.
 - 11 Butters up
 - 12 Punjabi religious group member
 - 13 Mountain range
 - 14 With no spiritual values
 - 15 — Actor, MI
 - 16 Hindu music
 - 17 Clans — Lucie
 - 18 Pyre and Ford
 - 19 Cowboy rope
 - 20 Bom
 - 21 Make jubilant

Diagramless 21 X 21, By Martha J. De Wit

- ACROSS
- 1 Inquire
 - 2 Inch along
 - 3 Musical program
 - 4 Overlay
 - 5 It, money
 - 6 Joke
 - 7 Ida's neighbor
 - 8 Month
 - 9 Heathen
 - 10 Saucy
 - 11 Miami's county
 - 12 Flying ant

- DOWN
- 1 He wrote "Rule Britannia"
 - 2 Dry as wine
 - 3 Ship's bottom
 - 4 Kind of wagon
 - 5 Ape or monkey
 - 6 Insertion mark
 - 7 Commerce
 - 8 Wessel sound?
 - 9 Voice vote
 - 10 Past

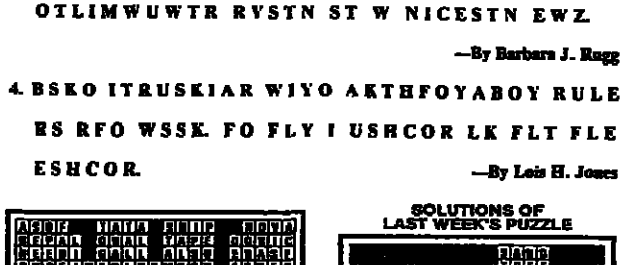


Last Week's Cryptograms

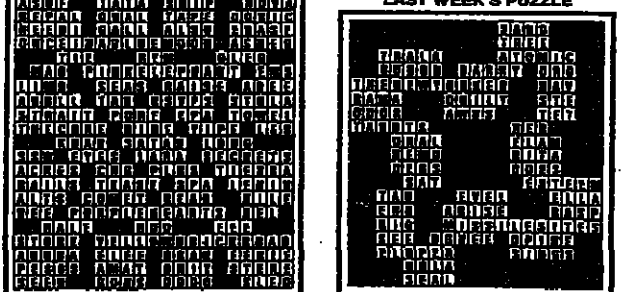
1. Old joke: Customer: "What is this bug doing in my soup?" Grumpy waiter: "Looks just like the backstroke."
2. Redheaded widow eats sizzling pizza loaded with real hot peppers, grows.
3. Above everything else, parents are simply not obliged to make their kids happy.
4. New whodunit has no clear solution; clues are too hard.

CRYPTOGRAMS

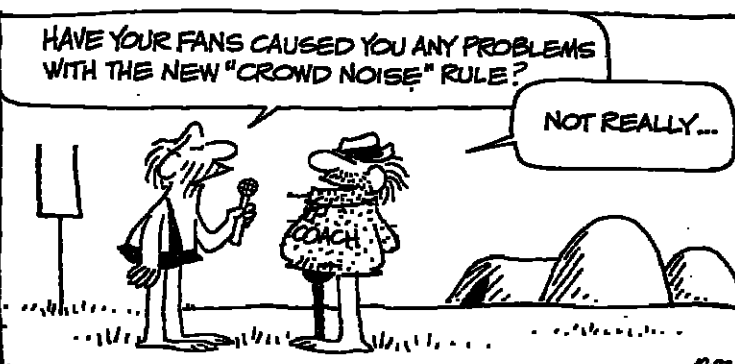
1. YOTFLOV LC'NR MTPC FXIO DJA VT
CXWTVX J HTMCW'P HTTW BJD BJYI
VTH BIRLMLOI. —By Gordon Miller
2. SCRATCH ITZ SCNERA SCLRUTP HUNTERZ
ULEP SCNAAP LK SCNAAP. —By Ed Huddles
3. W QSLICKWR KOUR QC WTQ UWZ RYM
OTILMWUWTR RVSTN ST W NICEST EWZ. —By Barbara J. Rugg
4. BSKO ITRUSKIAR WIYO AKTHFOYABOY RULE
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ESHCOR. —By Lois H. Jones



SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



B.C.



Family connections — heaviest burden for Michael Penn

By Beth Harris
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Penn carries the heaviest of show business burdens — family connections.

And when one of your relatives has a reputation as a hotheaded bully, the load of expectations doesn't get much lighter.

But the older brother of actors Sean and Christopher Penn has caught the public's attention with his debut album *March*, a collection of songs about failed relationships set to a folksy sound that has been compared to the Beatles.

At 30, Penn knows a thing or two about failure. He's now coming into his own after 12 years of trying to land a record deal.

After graduating from Santa Monica High School, Penn spent seven years kicking around the Los Angeles club scene with a band called Doll Congress. At the same time, his sister-in-law, Madonna, was becoming the pop sensation of the 1980s.

"We kept getting so close to getting a deal where labels were interested and giving us money to go into the studio. It never happened, and yet we still stayed together because it was enough of an encouragement to keep plugging away," he said.

"I think it was when I came to the realization that I was not completely happy with the way things were going that it finally broke up."

Penn left the band in 1987 and took keyboardist Patrick Warren with him. The pair met when Warren answered a newspaper advertisement placed by Penn.

Their collaboration peaked in Penn's four-track home-studio, where he wrote the songs that eventually would end up on *March*. He turned the results over to his manager, who brought the tape to the attention of RCA.

"Unlike every other time where there was like a lot of anticipation around a tape, this time I just sort of said, 'here's some new stuff. I'm going to go back and work on some more stuff, do with it what you will.' In a couple of weeks, we started to get phone calls," he said, unfolding a tobacco-filled bandana to roll cigarettes.

"No myth," the album's first single, rose to NO. 13 on

the charts, and the video received major exposure on the Music Television Network. Two other singles, *This And That* and *Brave New World*, have received extensive airplay.

The album's title doesn't have anything to do with the month of March either, said Penn, whose casual attire of a tank top, blue jeans and cowboy boots kept him out of a restaurant's dining room during a recent interview.

"It was a realization while making the record that I have this subconscious tendency to write marches," he said.

Despite his resemblance to Sean, Madonna's pugnacious former husband, it's the family name that brings up the comparisons and inevitable jokes about his brother.

"What's been interesting to me is that a lot of the press gets frazzled by the fact that they couldn't make an issue out of it. The fact that it wasn't an issue became the issue they wrote about because they had to find some way to include it," he said.

Even talk-show host David Letterman couldn't resist. Penn sat down to chat in his second appearance on the show and immediately got zinged.

"So, how old were you when Sean threw his first punch?" Letterman teased as Penn managed a half-smile.

Penn says his family has rallied together in the face of a hostile celebrity press and public. His father, Leo, is a veteran television director and his mother, Eileen Ryan, is an actress.

He hasn't ruled out the possibility of having his father direct him in a video. And his youngest brother is singing, too.

While other family members were acting, Penn was busy practicing guitar licks in the garage with his first band — senior high.

"That's what I did as a kid. I never got into sports or anything else. I just bought records and played guitar," he said.

Penn began the summer as Tears For Fears' opening act tour of outdoor venues. This month, he'll wrap up the club tour with Lloyd Cole that brought him to Indianapolis.

He's got half the songs written for his next album, and he and Warren might head out on an acoustic tour in October.

Kurosawa's new film takes anti-nuclear stance

By Yoshiko Mori
Reuter

HAKONE, Japan — Akira Kurosawa, Japan's most internationally acclaimed director, has said he would take an anti-nuclear stance in his latest project — *Rhapsody In August* starring American actor Richard Gere.

Kurosawa, 80, told reporters in this mountain resort near Tokyo that he was halfway through production of his 29th film, to be completed this October.

It will be his first fully Japanese-financed film in 20 years.

"(It) is about a series of mysterious events that happen to an 80-year-old woman and her four grandchildren who spend their summer holidays in a remote farming village," said Kurosawa.

"The underlying theme is about the tragedy of nuclear bombs. It's been 45 years since the end of the war but radioactive

ity is still killing people off," said Kurosawa.

More than 140,000 people were killed when a U.S. plane dropped an atomic bomb on the western Japanese city of Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945.

A second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, killing some 70,000 people.

The film will also star Sachiko Murase, 85, who attended the news conference along with Gere.

Gere, 40-year-old star of American *Gigolo* and *An Officer and a Gentleman*, paid tribute to his director.

"Kurosawa's films are very gentle and sensitive, and feature such emotions like gratitude, forgiveness and tenderness," said Gere, who plays the old woman's nephew, a Japanese-American of mixed race.

Kurosawa's son Hisao, the producer, told reporters the film was being backed by Shochiku, one of Japan's four largest film distribution companies.

It was the first such major investment by a Japanese firm, he said.

"It's so difficult raising funds in Japan for my films," Kurosawa commented.

A Shochiku representative declined to comment on the film's budget which industry sources estimate at around 1.5 billion yen (\$10 million).

Asked if he thought the Japanese audience was ready for his films again, the director replied: "I think it's still going to take some time."

Kurosawa won popular acclaim in Japan for his 1943 movie called *Sanshiro Sugata* (The Judo Saga), the first film he directed. A string of films he directed in the 1950s, beginning with *Rashomon* in 1950, earned him fame abroad.

But since his 1970 movie *Dodeskaden*, flopped, Kurosawa has had to seek financial backing outside Japan.

Kurosawa received an honorary Oscar on March 26 in



Akira Kurosawa

Los Angeles for lifetime achievement.

His films have given other directors a rich source for

plots. His *Rashomon*, was remade in the United States as *The Outrage*, *Seven Samurai* be-

came *The Magnificent Seven*, and *Yojimbo*, became the first so-called spaghetti western, *A Fistful of Dollars*.

World renowned Argentine theatre reopens

By Margaret Henry
The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentine — Colon Theatre, the world-renowned opera house, is back in business after renovation and labour disputes kept its stage almost bare for two seasons.

When the curtain belatedly went up on Gounod's *Faust*, in mid-July, moviegoers and Colon Director Sergio Renan said with relief, "it was a kind of compensation for a lot of headaches."

Modernisation of the lighting system, repair of the machine that rotates the sets, and other renovations were stretched out by Argentina's recession and inflation that nearly reached 5,000 per cent in 1989.

A short-lived production of *Aida* was performed last year in between repairs.

The fall season normally begins in April. However, 1990 subscriptions were initially refunded and *Faust*, was pushed back. As the new opening date of July 19 drew near, opera and dance lovers

wondered if the 82-year-old theatre would be ready in time.

"Until the premiere of *Faust*, until one day before, they had a very skeptical attitude," Renan said.

The work of French composer Charles Gounod was chosen, Renan said, to give Buenos Aires' opera lovers the big production they longed for.

With special effects such as lightning and billowing smoke, the opera also gave the Colon a chance to show

off its improvements, including a computer-controlled system to move sets up, down and sideways quickly and quietly.

The 4-and-1-2-hour opening night performance drew women in furs and jewels with tuxedoed companions, watching from red-velvet box seats which cost the equivalent of about \$50.

High above, the less wealthy may not have been able to see as well. But voices and music carried clearly from the stage and orchestra pit, re-

novators having taken great pains to preserve the theatre's exceptional acoustics.

Critics gave the lead singers fair to good reviews. The real star was the theatre itself.

The 1990 season includes seven more operas, one with U.S. guest star Leona Mitchell. Ballets include *Sleeping Beauty* with Soviet dancer Ludmila Semeniaka, and Carmen with Bolshoi ballerina Maya Plisetskaya.

A few concerts and dance performances were offered during the \$5-million renovation that began in December 1987. For opera lovers, however, the Colon is only now returning to life.

"But what I would say is the theatre's essential link with the community — opera and ballet — was interrupted," said Renan.

Anna Pavlova, Arturo Toscanini, Enrico Caruso, Maria Callas, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Igor Stravinsky — the greats in ballet, opera and music of the 20th-century have performed at the Colon since its inauguration in 1908.

Jazz great Jackie McLean makes comeback

By John Swenson
Reuter

NEW YORK — After two decades as a forgotten figure, Jackie McLean is back on the road that took him to fame as one of jazz's greatest alto saxophonists.

McLean, 58, a teenage protégé of the legendary Charlie Parker, won acclaim in the 1950s but his career later suffered through years of neglect by the record industry and a battle against heroin addiction.

He turned his life around in the early 1970s, when he dropped out of the jazz scene

to teach at the University of Hartford in Connecticut — which meant relative obscurity for him, although many of his imitators enjoyed commercial success.

McLean's fortunes are changing, however. The saxophonist has a new album out and recently performed a critically acclaimed week-long stand at the Village Vanguard Club in New York.

"It's a strange world," said McLean. "I've been ignored, but I've managed to keep making a contribution my own way. I built an institution in Hartford called the Artists' Collective, a programme for

young people that teaches dance, music, drama and the visual arts, an inner-city cultural programme.

"I'm the chairman of the African American Music Department at the University of Hartford, a full professor. When I went to the school 20 years ago they didn't have that department, so I built that. Those two things have been very important to me. Of course I've been playing all along."

If McLean is bitter about the treatment he's received, it's tempered by the knowledge that the same thing has happened to many great jazz

musicians before him. "I don't feel bad," he said. "I'm in good company. They ignored Charlie Parker, they ignored Herbie Nichols, the last ten years of (Thelonious) Monk's life he spend in total seclusion."

McLean grew up in the sugar hill section of Harlem. By the age of 15 he was playing the sax and emulating the style of tenor players like Dexter Gordon and Lester Young. He studied with Bud Powell, jammed with Monk and substituted for Parker when the saxophonist couldn't make gigs.

Before he was 20, McLean was playing with Miles Davis. During the 1950s and 1960s, in between recording a series of magnificent records, he lived a roller-coaster existence, struggling to survive, sometimes suffering from the effects of heroin, and harassed by police.

McLean stopped drug-taking at the end of the 1960s and turned his life around. "I didn't play at all between '70 and '72 because I had so much else I was beginning to do," he said.

"I was counselling drug addicts, and at the same time I was starting to develop the Artists' Collective. I was also

starting to develop the programme at the University of Hartford. I picked up the horn again in '73. It was rough, but I picked it up and started playing again."

McLean is able to juggle his role as teacher with the demands of playing.

"It's rewarding on both ends," he explained. "Certainly working with young people is rewarding, as rewarding to me as any records. I'm a survivor. They may ignore me but I'm still here. I'm in good shape, I'm working hard on my music. I'm practising hard and I hope I'll get better and better."

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150th anniversary of Caspar David Friedrich's death

The painter who looks into himself

By Amline Haase

NOVALIS, the Romantic poet, defined the basic principle of "romanticising" as follows: "Endowing the ordinary with a loftier significance, the everyday with a semblance of mystery, the familiar with the dignity of the unknown, and the finite with features of the infinite."

Caspar David Friedrich demanded of a work of art: "Elevation of the spirit and even if not solely and exclusively — religious uplift."

There are numerous parallels between Novalis, who died at the age of 28, and Friedrich, who passed away after two strokes on May 7, 1840, aged 66. Caspar David Friedrich philosophised: "Thus prays the devout person, without saying a word, and the highest on high hears him; thus prays the feeling artist and the feeling person understands and recognises this, and even the less sensitive person has at least an inkling."

For a long time, however, neither the "sensitive" nor the "less sensitive" art lover had an inkling of artist Friedrich's day-dreams of infinity. He had sunk into oblivion long

before his death. His obituary, published in the "Kunstblatt" on May 9, 1840, reads as follows: "His life was one long misfortune. The memory of his brother, who was drowned whilst skating — despite Friedrich's efforts to save him — cast a deep shadow over his whole life because he held himself responsible for his brother's death. He fled from his home (Greifswald), came here (Dresden) with no visible means of support and kept himself initially by colouring inferior views of Dresden for a picture dealer — until his own landscape paintings gradually earned him a reputation. His works were now highly regarded and much sought-after; he could have lived free from worry with his family if he had not been so excessively generous to persons in need and had not been so often imposed upon. In the best years of his life, his health began to fail and his physical debility made him inactive for years."

Friedrich revolutionised landscape painting, the traces of which lasted into the 20th century. His landscape is a symbol, a metaphor, a message; it opens onto an "inner dimension," it is the object of

contemplation, not sensual experience. "The artist should not only paint what he sees before him but also what he sees in himself."

"Close your physical eye so that you may look at your picture with your spiritual eye. Then bring to daylight what you have seen in the darkness. In that way, the image may act on whoever beholds it from the outside towards the inside," Friedrich said.

The spatial correlation is shattered in Friedrich's paintings; the construed spaces of Piero Della Francesca or Hubert Van Eyck have been destroyed; the idealistic and elevated landscapes of Claude Lorrain or Nicolas Poussin are questioned; the realism of the Dutch school is doubted.

Friedrich's technique of layer-like spaces — based on seemingly mathematical principles — enables the invention of landscape spaces which are pure atmosphere, light and air turned into colour — like William Turner and the Impressionists. But they open up onto a world of symbols which can only be discovered by directing the glance inwards.

Whereas his contemporaries and the next generation forgot him, Friedrich is

claimed by almost every art movement of the 20th century. His pictures of mist prompt sensitive beholders of painting to follow traces to Mark Rothko or Gotthard Graubner. The twin source of creativeness — mathematical principle and poetic transcendence — permits a diversity of interpretations and perspectives in regard to Caspar David Friedrich's painting and, at the same time, guards its secret.

Just as Novalis wanted to see language structured like "mathematical formulae," Friedrich's paintings are often subjected to a geometric pattern which allocates every object in the picture to its own place. Diagonals, ellipses, parallels provide the invented spaces with support — as one would never see them in reality. And they determine the metaphoric dimensions of the landscapes — without having to call in crosses, ruins or ravens. The ground is cut from beneath the viewer's feet.

The view opens up onto the infinite — inwardly, into infinity.

Chalk Cliffs of Rügen (1818) is a typical example of a pattern of diagonals and

semicircles which directs the glance from the dizzy heights of the cliffs into the sea below. The painting is a reminiscence of Friedrich's honeymoon in the summer of 1818, following his marriage to Caroline Bommer on 21 January. The two men in the foreground are often referred to ironically as a double portrait of Friedrich himself — as painter and husband.

His *Walker Through a Sea of Mist*, likewise dates from 1818. The figure, with his back to the viewer, is centrally situated — where all structural lines converge. The beholder must — perforce — adopt the Walker's viewpoint and is thus centrally placed in this experience of nature. The latter is spread out before him like an altar. "God is everywhere, in the finest grain of sand..." Friedrich wrote in his diary.

Monk By the Seashore (1808-10) is undoubtedly the painting in which Friedrich confronts the viewer most radically with the cosmos. One can still hear the echoes of Heinrich von Kleist's reaction to this painting (consisting of four-fifths sky and one-fifth narrow strip of beach and sea): "When you look at this



The Polar Sea (1823-24) is one of the best known works by

Romantic painter, Caspar David Friedrich.

picture you have the impression that your eyelids have been cut off." This nocturnal work is dramatic — the pale beach, the lonesome, human figure, the dark sea, the magic glow of the clouds — behind which one suspects the moon. But it is without movement, as if frozen — eerie.

The *Polar Sea* (1823-24) is indeed a frozen landscape; ice floes and the piled-up wreckage of a ship, on top of one another — against the background of a cold, blue sky

above the white frozen sea. David d'Anger, the French sculptor, was very impressed by Friedrich's paintings. He described the German artist as the "man who discovered the tragedy of landscape" and said: "Friedrich has a sombre soul. He has fully grasped the fact that landscape can portray the major crises in nature."

The painting, which bears the subtitle *The Wreck of the Hoffnung*, has often been given a political interpretation:

It is an allegory, following the war of liberation against Napoleon, of the resignation resulting from the failure to establish internal political freedom — vis-a-vis the sovereign princes.

Friedrich's paintings are nocturnal plants, products of mesmerised fear, creatures born in the proximity of death. That they still prompt us to dream may well stem from the fact that they do not betray their secret — IN Press.

Scientists reverse cancer in laboratory

By Wilson Da Silva
Reuters

SYDNEY — Scientists in Australia, claiming a world breakthrough, said Thursday they had for the first time reversed the growth of cancer cells by "switching off" the gene that caused the disease.

Professor Hiroto Naora of the Australian National University in Canberra told Reuters a genetic engineering process developed by this group had dramatically reversed the growth of fibrosarcoma cancer in a laboratory culture

dish.

The process worked quickly and was so thorough the cancer cells were quickly restored to a normal and benign state.

The five-person team introduced a gene close to a cancer-causing oncogene and used a biochemical trigger to stimulate it.

This provoked a battle between the two in which the quiescent gene deformed the rogue oncogene and rendered it inactive.

"(Naora) likens it to ninja turtles," said university

spokeswoman Maureen Barnett, referring to the popular "teenage mutant ninja turtles" children's television series.

"You arm the genes, send them in and they win the battle."

Naora said his five-member team had also switched off oncogenes in laboratory mice which have a genetic arrangement similar to humans, Naora said.

Further testing was under way to check whether the mice cancer cells also reverted

to normal.

There was no reason why the process could not be used to control human cancers, Naora said. The first effects on cancer genes in the dish were apparent within hours, he said.

"We've got to do a lot of basic research before it can be applied to human cancer genes," he said. "But this result is very exciting for us."

The breakthrough, the result of six years of genetic tinkering, was the first time a cancer gene had been deacti-

vated and reversed in a laboratory. Positive results were first detected six months ago, Naora said.

The researchers stressed that both the trigger gene and the oncogene were artificially placed near each other.

In theory the trigger could be inserted in a naturally occurring cancer and activated, but this would be a difficult clinical process.

There are 30 known human oncogenes, and the researchers said it would be much easier for them to find

naturally occurring trigger genes than insert one near the oncogene.

The mechanism was comparable to the ecological principle that no two species can occupy the same niche in nature, Naora said.

A Japanese citizen who has worked in Australia for 20 years, Naora leads a team made up of Chinese and Australian researchers. They said the discovery was in its early stages and may not lead to clinical application for eight to 10 years.

Artificial inner ear transplants help the stone deaf

By Hans Edzard Busemann
Nordwest Zeitung

It was wonderful, says Roswitha Liebeck, 20. "It was marvellous to hear a door closing, bells ringing and a helicopter flying overhead again."

She had been totally deaf for six months after an inflammation of the middle ear and is delighted with the artificial inner ear she has been using for several weeks after a transplant operation.

She was training to be a draughtsman but had to abandon that idea on turning deaf. She is one of one in six people who are either deaf or hard of hearing in the Federal Republic of Germany.

A special unit at Hanover medical college tries to help the totally deaf. A team of doctors led by Professor Ernst Lehnardt do transplant surgery.

The artificial device they

transplant consists of a receiver and a thin wire. During a 90-minute operation this wire is carefully inserted into the patient's shell-shaped inner ear.

It emits minute electric shocks that stimulate the auditory nerves and create the impression of noise.

The noises themselves are received via a miniature microphone and converted by a speech processor, a tiny computer, into electric impulses.

These impulses are transmitted to the artificial ear, which is located just under the skin, and with sufficient energy to relay them to the transplanted hearing aid.

After the operation patients merely register noises. They cannot identify them. It takes lengthy training under therapeutic supervision for them to be able to take part in conversations.

They have to relearn how to

understand what people say, starting with syllables and words before going on to sentences and continuous passages.

Words don't sound the same, nothing sounds the same as when heard by a healthy ear. "I was recently shocked by an unknown noise that turned out to be a pneumatic drill," Frau Liebeck says. "It sounds entirely different from how they used to do."

The Hanover clinic has so far mainly operated on patients who have not been deaf from birth. They find it easier to learn what speech is because they have been able to hear and speak in the past.

People who have been deaf from birth don't know what to listen for and can't distinguish between the spoken word, music or street noise because they don't know the difference.



A course of intensive training must follow the implantation

Transplants are fairly successful with children, as against adults. Professor Lehnardt says he has been treating children deaf from birth with growing success for the

past two years. But teaching them is extremely hard and demanding work, and the ear, nose and throat clinic is working flat out. A speech therapy centre is planned, but Profes-

sor Lehnardt is having difficulty in raising funds. Officialdom is tight-fisted. "Many politicians are adept at turning a deaf ear," he complains, "but none of them are deaf."

L-Tryptophan outbreak linked to production change

BOSTON (AP) — The recent outbreak of a potentially fatal disease linked to the dietary supplement L-Tryptophan probably came from an impurity introduced by a change in production, according to a report. Disease experts in several states have traced the mysterious illness to supplements made by one Japanese chemical company that produces L-Tryptophan in bulk.

Now, doctors have tracked down the specific batches responsible for the outbreak and conclude that changes in the way they were made, including less filtering of possible toxic contaminants, were the most likely cause.

"We believe that some of the (toxic) agent has been getting into L-Tryptophan for years," said Dr. Michael T. Osterholm.

"But there was a series of circumstances that may have increased the agent in the product in late 1988 and at the same time resulted in lowering the amount removed in the finished product."

Osterholm, the Minnesota state epidemiologist, said researchers are now trying to pinpoint the poisonous substance that apparently contaminated the supplements.

All L-Tryptophan was ordered off the market in the United States in March after it was linked with an outbreak of Eosinophilia-Myalgia Syndrome that has struck more than 1,500 people, killing 27. The painful blood disorder can cause: high fever, rash, weakness and shortness of breath, among other symptoms.

L-Tryptophan, an amino acid, has been used to treat insomnia, depression and other disorders. It is made in bulk by six companies, but the outbreak was linked to the Showa Denko K.K. firm of

Japan.

Osterholm was senior author of the latest report, along with other researchers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the Mayo Clinic and the Minnesota Department of Health. It was published in the latest New England Journal of Medicine.

While most of the cases of the blood disease associated with L-Tryptophan were spotted during 1988 and 1989, Osterholm said others occurred in the early 1980s.

L-Tryptophan is made in fermentation vats by the bacteria *Bacillus Amylolyquefaciens*.

The researchers found that the problems began after Showa Denko started using a new strain of the microbe and cut in half the amount of Carbon used to filter out impurities.

"What we were able to demonstrate without a doubt was that there were changes that occurred that let more of it (the toxic substance) be in there," said Osterholm.

Alan Wachter, a spokesman for Showa Denko, said, "the company has acknowledged that there was a statistical profile that pointed to their product" as the cause of the outbreak. However, he said it is still uncertain whether the fault lies in changes in its manufacturing process.

Experts isolate marijuana target in brain, may help drug development

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists say they have isolated and cloned a "button" that Marijuana pushes in the brain to produce its effects, an advance that may lead to new pain-killers and other medications.

Marijuana's main active ingredient attaches itself to the protein structure on the surface of brain cells, triggering alterations in mood and thinking, researchers said.

The new work suggests that the brain contains some natural substance that resembles the Marijuana ingredient, called a Cannabinoid, scientists said.

The work was presented in the latest issue of the British journal Nature by scientists from the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Their paper describes details of the brain-cell structure as it appears in rats, but further study showed the human structure is virtually identical, said study co-author Tom

Bonner.

Marijuana is best known for producing a calm, mildly euphoric state. Time seems to slow down and users become more sensitive to sights, sounds and touch. Ideas may flow rapidly through the mind while short-term memory is suppressed.

Marijuana ingredients can also relieve pain and ease or prevent high blood pressure, epileptic convulsions, nausea, asthma and the eye disease glaucoma, scientists say.

The new work opens the door to developing derivatives that mimic those therapeutic effects while lacking undesired ones, commented Dr. Solomon Snyder, director of the Neuroscience Department at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore.

The newly cloned structure is called a receptor. Many drugs and natural substances bind to particular receptors to exert their effects on the body.

Previous studies suggest

that Cannabinoids exert a variety of effects because they bind to a variety of receptor variants, called subtypes, Snyder said.

"So if you could get a derivative that works on the therapeutic subtype but not the subtype that makes you high, then you would have an effective drug without the possibility of being a drug of abuse," he said in a telephone interview.

"Drug companies have been working on this for years, but have been unsuccessful because they didn't have any way to look at these receptor subtypes that we think exist."

Researchers should now be able to use the cloned Cannabinoid receptor to search for related subtypes, he said.

"Then a drug company can synthesize lots of chemicals and check them out on receptor A and receptor B, and then gradually sculpt a molecule that fits receptor A and

not receptor B, and then you have a super drug," he said.

Bonner said the existence of the receptor suggests that the brain naturally contains some sort of Cannabinoid-like substance.

"The receptor's not there just so that people can go out and smoke pot and get high," he said.

Finding the brain chemical would shed light on the workings of the central nervous system, and might give clues to developing new medications, he said.

In the Nature paper, scientists said they found genetic material that tells brain cells how to make the receptor. From that they could deduce the chemical makeup of the receptor.

When they inserted the genetic material into hamster ovary cells, the cells produced receptors on their surfaces. The receptors behaved as expected when exposed to Cannabinoids.

U.S. drug abuse programmes born of AIDS epidemic report success

ATLANTA (AP) — A federal effort to reach drug addicts, born out of the AIDS epidemic, has recorded success rates as high as 47 per cent in getting junkies to quit, health officials have said.

The programmes aimed at studying and changing the behavior of intravenous drug abusers and their sex partners, were launched in 1987 by 41 communities by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). More than 30,000 people who were not in drug abuse programmes were enrolled in the NIDA projects.

Follow-up interviews in five cities found between 16 per cent and 47 per cent "stopping all use of IV (intravenous) drugs," the Atlanta-based National Centres for Disease

Control (CDC) said in reporting the results.

"If the results at other sites prove to be consistent," it would provide "strong evidence of the considerable impact this approach could have," the CDC said.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is transmitted chiefly through sexual contact or body fluids, including the sharing of blood-contaminated drug needles.

More than 38,000 of the 139,000 AIDS cases reported in the United States have occurred in IV drug users. An additional 3,000 involved sex with IV drug users, and 1,400 were children born to IV drug users or their sexual partners.

"Recruiting drug users into — and keeping them in —

well-managed, effective drug-treatment programmes can reduce risk behaviors for HIV (AIDS virus) infection," the Atlanta-based CDC said.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse projects contacted IV drug abusers through community workers, many of them former addicts themselves.

Techniques varied from city to city, but included individual and group counseling and demonstration of risk-reducing practices. The programmes encouraged users to quit their habits, and encouraged those who wouldn't quit to stop sharing drug paraphernalia and to use safer sex, including the use of condoms and reducing their number of partners.

Follow-up surveys were

conducted six months after the drug users enrolled in the programme. Results were reported from five cities: Chicago, Houston, Miami, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

Between 45 per cent and 73 per cent of the participants came back for the follow-up interviews.

The drug users were paid for their participation in the survey. Success in getting the addicts to quit ranged from 16 per cent in Chicago to 47 per cent in Miami. Quitting was reported by 17 per cent of users in San Francisco, 26 per cent in Philadelphia and 32 per cent in Houston.

In Chicago, where just 18 per cent of the participants hadn't been sharing needles with friends, the percentage rose to 47 per cent.

French abortion pill challenged abroad

By Terri Jones
The Associated Press

PARIS — The French abortion pill has proved to be a safe, efficient way of terminating early pregnancy. But, for reasons that have little to do with medicine, it faces an uncertain future abroad.

The drug, known as RU-486, has been denounced by the powerful anti-abortion lobby in the United States and has not yet been endorsed by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

It has been used with 96 per cent success by more than 55,000 women, most in France but a few in 14 other countries, said Catherine Euvard, a pharmacist and spokeswoman for Roussel-Uclaf, the manufacturer.

Medical expert say RU-486, which must be used in the first seven weeks of pregnancy, has great potential for reducing illegal abortions, and complications associated with surgery. The drug is known as Mifepistone and is marketed as Mifegyne.

France approved RU-486 in 1988. Marketing is unlikely to extend beyond Britain and perhaps a few other northern European countries for at least another year.

The drug prevents fertilised eggs from implanting in the uterus, causing miscarriage. It is taken in injections of the hormone Prostaglandin, which causes uterine contractions and reduces the risk of hemorrhaging.

Abortions in France using RU-486 cost 750 francs (\$144), but 80 per cent is reimbursed under France's social insurance system.

"RU-486 has a direct toxic, poisonous effect on a developing baby," American anti-abortion leader John Wilkie said in an interview. "If it works, it kills the baby."

Wilkie is president of both the U.S. National Right to Life Committee and the International Right to Life Federation, based in Switzerland.

Approval by the World Health Organisation, a U.N. agency, is vital to the drug's acceptance in underdeveloped countries because of the role WHO is expected to play in providing the pill itself and follow-up care.

The health organisation, based in Geneva, notes cautiously that RU-486 appears to be an effective, safe approach to termination of early pregnancy and also shows potential for treating endometriosis and breast

cancer. But WHO spokesman Thomas Netter said RU-486 was among the most sensitive matters before the agency.

"If we approve it, or if we don't approve it, we'll be accused of murder," he said. "We're caught between a rock and a hard place."

Dr. Etienne-Emile Baulieu, a consultant to Roussel-Uclaf who developed RU-486, has claimed WHO had not approved the drug because it feared a cutoff of U.S. funds, which make up about one-fourth of the agency's budget.

Washington has withheld \$100 million from the U.N. Fund for Population Activities in the past five years to protest alleged forced abortions in China.

"We are studying the administration of the drug, doses, timing, cost, logistics of delivering it to local health services, the question of follow-up and how to avoid misuse. We want to look at every aspect of the implementation of RU-486 before we can advise on general use of the drug," Netter said.

A major obstacle to selling RU-486 in the United States is a threatened boycott by anti-abortion groups of products made by Hoechst AG, Roussel-Uclaf's parent company in West Germany.

If RU-486 ever reaches the American market, "we will unleash a boycott in the U.S. of any company that sells it, any subsidiary of Roussel-Uclaf and any subsidiary of Hoechst," Wilkie said. "It would be a blockbuster boycott involving tens of millions of people. The company would feel the effects immediately."

On the other hand, Ms. Euvard said, "the pro-choice side has told us, nicely, that they will boycott us if we don't sell Ru-486. Either way, we will have a boycott."

In France this month, the Association of Catholic Families condemned the "vulgar publicity orchestrated anew" about the pill, which it called "fatal for babies and, in the absence of a precise understanding, a risk for the mother."

Roussel-Uclaf predicts global acceptance in 15 years.

"Control of overpopulation is a very big problem in the future," Ms. Euvard said. "The problem of birth control will be a top priority, even if we have to proceed with abortions. It's a question of life and death for the entire planet."

Antibiotics head off urinary tract infections in women

By Brenda C. Coleman
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Taking a tablet containing antibiotics after sex can give women who suffer frequent urinary tract infections a reprieve from that common and frustrating problem, researchers report.

Such an approach is better than taking the same antibiotics daily or three times a week to prevent infections, since continual antibiotic therapy can be costly and can promote antibiotic-resistant bacteria, the researchers reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The drugs they used in a new study — Trimethoprim and Sulfamethoxazole, marketed in combination under the trade names Bactrim and Septra — seem to work regardless of how often a woman has sex, the researchers said.

The drugs also are highly effective in women who use diaphragms for contraception,

an important finding since diaphragms have been blamed for contributing to urinary tract infections in sexually active young women.

The researchers compared 16 infection-prone women who took the antibiotic after sex with 11 similar women who were given an inert drug. The women were an average of 23 years old, and each had suffered at least two urinary tract infections in the previous year.

Only two of the 16 women taking antibiotics developed infections during the 180 days of the study, compared with nine of the women taking placebos. The researchers were led by Dr. Ann Stapleton of the Department of Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle.

The infection rate in study subjects who took antibiotics after sex — 0.3 per patient-year — compares favorably with rates reported previously for patients who took the same drugs daily or three times per week.

لجنة التحرير

Why Arabs resent Western attitudes

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

THE LATEST moves by Western governments — especially the United States and Britain — in sending a "multinational" force to the Gulf has created deep feelings of resentment towards those governments throughout the Arab World, according to Mohammad Kamal, a member of the Jordanian Senate and a former ambassador.

"The latest measures taken by (British Prime Minister) Margaret Thatcher have eroded British prestige in the area. It will take a long time to repair the damage done," Kamal said in an interview with British Independent Radio.

"The problem in the Gulf is a problem between Kuwait and Iraq," said Kamal, who is also

a member of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee.

"The current conflict between the two countries should be solved within an Arab framework — without foreign intervention," he said. Kamal, who served as Jordanian ambassador to the United States between 1985 and 1988, indicated that the protection of Saudi Arabia from an Iraqi attack is not the only motive behind the deployment of foreign troops in the Gulf. Kamal, however, declined to elaborate on other possible motives.

"Saddam Hussein has no intention of taking Saudi Arabia and has stated this repeatedly," Kamal said.

Referring to world reactions of Iraq's take-over of Kuwait, Kamal said they were "out of proportion to the problem itself." The Senator added that by applying the means of quiet

diplomacy, the West could have obtained the necessary assurances and guarantees from Iraq regarding the continued flow of oil at all times and at a reasonable price.

"Demonstrations in Jordan and other Arab countries in support of Iraq," represented the "resentment and frustration of the Arab man-in-the-street towards the United States and Western moves in the Gulf," he said.

"After the occupation of Arab lands in 1967 and even after the annexation of the Golan Heights, no move was made by either Britain, the U.S. or the international community to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 242," Kamal pointed out. "It angers (Arab) people to see foreign fleets and troops moving into the Gulf within a week

of the adoption of Security Council resolution 661 while resolution 242 is still waiting to be implemented, 23 years after it was adopted," Senator Kamal said.

Citing the possible effects of the demonstrations on Arab political decision and policy, making the former ambassador said Arab leaders should respect public opinion and take it into consideration. "Nationalist sentiments are running high on the streets of Damascus and even in Saudi Arabia," he said. "The feeling in the streets cannot be ignored by Arab leaders," he maintained. Asked about the peoples' feelings on the practices of the Arab states in the Gulf, Kamal said that the people were unhappy to see their wealth being squandered. "There are millions of Arabs



Mohammad Kamal
living in poverty while Arab money is being invested out with the unleashing of a "propaganda machine" on the Arab World.

side the Arab World," he said. While Kamal doubted the truth of the allegations that Iraq had any territorial ambitions in Saudi Arabia, he conceded that Iraq possibly did not explain its position to the outside world sufficiently. He said that "Saddam Hussein should have given the necessary assurances to the Americans and the British regarding the continuation of the flow of oil."

"The extremely negative stand of the Western press in covering the current Gulf crisis has contributed in inflating the conflict artificially. 'You (the Western media) say you are impartial, that you are objective, but it is fairly obvious that the Western media is totally one-sided,' Kamal said, likening the Western media coverage of the current Gulf crisis

East European influx puts Venice in dilemma

By Jill Serjeant
Reuters

VENICE — They sleep on the coach on the long overnight drive from the east. They eat the sandwiches they brought from home on the steps of St. Mark's Square and drink free from Venice's fountains.

They are the new tourists from Eastern Europe, freed from travel restrictions and eager to see at first hand the famed canal city, whose richly-decorated palaces, churches and singing gondoliers have been denied them for decades.

But the tens of thousands who descend on Venice on cheap day trips are often too poor to buy even a Cappuccino, let alone take a ride on a gondola, and their arrival has forced the city council to take a new look at Venice's age-old tourist dilemma.

No sooner had the Italian government withdrawn Venice as a candidate to host the Expo 2000 World Fair, fearing the city would be suffocated by extra tourists, than the mass influx of Czechoslovaks, Hungarians and East Germans began.

One Saturday morning in June, 1,200 coaches arrived at the lagoon's terminal with the mainland, spilling out 60,000 East European day trippers — a number little short of Venice's resident population.

Venetians acknowledge that the East Europeans are quiet, clean up their litter and are persistent in their search for Venice's few and far between public lavatories.

"These tourists are very dignified and very serious," said Mayor Ugo Bergamo.

But the narrow alleys and little bridges, already overloaded with weekend visitors, created under the strain as the influx was repeated each successive Saturday and Sunday.

Venetians complained they could hardly get through the crush to do their shopping while hotel and restaurant owners wrung their hands in despair as the visitors read their price lists and walked on.

The city went up once again for the closure of the road bridge to the mainland and for a 25,000 daily maximum ceiling to be put on tourist arrivals.

Venice hoteliers association President Piermario Boggiano came up with the radical suggestion of issuing a restricted number of coach operators in the east with a secret password. Coaches without the magic "open sesame" would be turned away.

The city council however opted for a more diplomatic solution, pleading with embassies in Prague, Budapest and Berlin to cut down the weekend flow of coaches.

Mayor Bergamo said last week this had brought a welcome drop in arrivals: to about 100 coaches or 3,000 tourists a day.

But hostilities appeared to have broken out in early August, when the council introduced fines on picnickers in St. Mark's

Square and erected barriers to prevent people sitting on the steps as part of a new campaign to restore "order and decorum."

Sitting on pavements, bathing tired feet in the canals, and sunbathing in the squares were all banned under the new order, which included the threat of jail terms of up to five years for serious offenders.

"If they pay for my lunch, I'll throw my sandwich away," one young East German told police trying to move picnickers out of St. Mark's Square last week.

Nearby in Florian's cafe, rich Americans and Japanese were paying about 17,000 lire each \$8 for a toasted sandwich and coffee, accompanied by classical music from the resident orchestra.

Bergamo said the crackdown was not intended to penalise the poverty-stricken tourists from the east but to make all visitors "understand that Venice should be respected."

He said the council was also planning to improve its services to meet the needs of tourists with little to spend.

"The culture and history of Venice is something that should be available and guaranteed to everyone," he told Reuters.

"These are poor tourists. They have problems and should be welcomed with a better organisation. We are planning ways in which to welcome them in a warmer, and more civilised manner."

He said the council was considering opening its museums and palaces free of charge for one day a week, trying to recruit volunteer tour guides and planning to increase the number of public lavatories and washrooms.

It has also announced plans to create a picnic area in a park around the corner from St. Mark's and the pink 12th-century Doge's Palace. But the park will not be ready until next spring and even then stays will be limited to 40 minutes.

"Venice is a civilised city which wants to cope with this problem. We would like to be a bridge between East and West, just as Venice was in the days of its sea-going empire," Bergamo said.

But until the council implements its plans, the day trippers from the East are seen as problem tourists who contribute little to the city's coffers and a lot to its overcrowded rubbish bins.

'King's mission crucial'

(Continued from page 1)
People in the streets of Baghdad, Kuwait or Amman, for that matter or anywhere in the Middle East, want peace.

Q: How would you characterise the message that (the King) is bringing from President Saddam Hussein as to President Bush? What's in it?

A: Well, I think at this moment that you have two heads of state meeting at a crucial moment for me to speculate or divulge. I think what's in it is basically a great deal of concern on the part of His Majesty the King, who, from the very beginning, has striven for a diplomatic solution for a dialogue.

Q: The point of significance now, as to supplies, moving from Aqaba to Jordan into Iraq and the president has warned of a blockade of Aqaba. Will Jordan shut down that flow of goods without a blockade and apply the U.N. sanction?

A: Well, as I said every country, including Turkey for example, if there is a flight sanction, has found compensation. I hope that discussion between His Majesty and President Bush is a broad ranging political

discussion (and) will put the whole issue of sanctions and indeed how we are not talking of sanctions but embargo and blockade and interdiction. This package has moved so quickly — it was not even called for by U.N. Security Council — (and) is currently a subject of great concern to the secretary general himself. So I think that we need to deescalate the situation and I hope that Jordan, which is the only party that can talk to all parties concerned, can help in that endeavour.

That is only one aspect of the sanction's problem. We have half of our work force in the Gulf, we have excellent relations with all the Gulf countries. Frankly, we want to keep it that way. If the sanctions mean shutting down all business transactions... I heard the U.S. is losing \$20 million every day. We're losing several million dollars a day. This is affecting small people. Remittances are just not coming through. Relationship is one side of it. As far as Article 50 of the U.N. Charter states, we have the right to consult with the secretary general of the U.N. within 30 days to seek compensation of sanctions that are to be applied.

King meets Bush today

(Continued from page 1)

be discussed between the King and Bush is the American-led campaign to enforce international sanctions and an embargo on Iraq. Bush said Tuesday that he would seek to convince the King to apply sanctions on Iraq. The King, who has said that Jordan respects the U.N. Charter, said the resolutions adopted by the world body, is expected to outline the Kingdom's position on the issue to Bush, officials said.

In Washington, the State Department said the United States was ready to help Jordan and other small countries endure the financial hardship if they joined an embargo on Iraq.

Bush, at a White House news conference Tuesday, stressed the close ties between the United States and Jordan but threatened to crack down on shipments through its only port, Aqaba, if they were intended for Iraq.

Asked if he might order U.S. naval vessels to "interdict" Iraqi-bound commerce, Bush replied: "I think at some point it might well be, if it's a hole through which commerce flows."

"I would certainly think that Aqaba should be closed to Iraqi commerce," said Bush, who had interrupted his vacation to return briefly to Washington for meetings on the crisis.

Bush, however, said: "We've always been a friend of Jordan. We've helped them in the past; we'd help them in the future if they fulfil their obligation here."

New factors in play

(Continued from page 1)
changes in the psyche of the people in the region."

Khouri said he doubted whether Iraq would make any moves on the ground in the event of the U.S. gaining the upper hand in the present stand-off in the Gulf. "True, Iran would not like American or Western control of the oil fields in the area and would prefer to have an independent Iraq as its neighbour," he said. But, he added, "it is too premature to predict anything."

"I guess Iran will weigh the situation very carefully, particularly its own interests, before doing anything," he said.

Khouri, however, foresees a major impact of the Iranian-Iraqi rapprochement on the international oil market and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). "Iran and Iraq have been cooperating within OPEC for some time now," he noted. "This cooperation could increase and its effects will be very visible on the oil market," he said.

While Dr. Keilani argued that "perhaps Iraq could even hope for Iran coming to its rescue" to beat the international embargo and sanctions, at least in terms of food and medicines, in light of their 1,280-kilometre border, Khouri thinks Iran will put its interests first before contributing to any Iraqi efforts to cushion the impact of the U.S.-led campaign against Baghdad.

Dr. Anani agrees with

Khouri. "It all depends on the foreign policy objectives of Iran," he said. "If their objective is to consolidate the regional front in the long-term, they will cooperate with the Iraqis, but if they think normalisation of relations with the Iraqis is a long-term process, then they might grab the opportunity to serve their short-term interests."

Dr. Hamarneh believes that Iran's need to and interest in gaining increased revenues through boosted oil production to make up for the loss of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil from the market could also be very crucial in determining the future state of relationship between Tehran

and Baghdad.

In the short term, Dr. Keilani said, "Saddam has sent a message to everyone that he is no longer an easy target for anyone, and that his Iranian flanks are no longer vulnerable."

There is a majority opinion among Jordanian analysts that the latest twist in the course of events in the Middle East could be a stabilising factor and will have a "cooling effect" on rising tensions and fears of a war since, as Dr. Keilani put it, "the Americans and others will have to rethink their strategies now that there is a possibility that they might have to take on Iran in the bargain."

60,000 U.S. troops in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

Bush also accused Iraq's troops of plundering Kuwait and committing atrocities in the country. "Saddam Hussein would have us believe that his unprovoked invasion of a friendly Arab Nation is a struggle between Arabs and Americans," Bush said.

"That is clearly false. It is Saddam who lied to his Arab neighbours. It is Saddam who invaded an Arab state. It is Saddam who now threatens the Arab Nation," Bush said.

Bush, praising the Defence Department's swift response to the crisis, said: "We, by contrast, seek to assist our Arab friends in their hour of need."

Bush indicated the commit-

ment of U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia was open-ended, saying, "I don't know about a period of years, but certainly we're going to be there long enough to get the job done."

The president sought to minimise the danger facing the 3,500 or so Americans trapped in Kuwait and Iraq. He said their status was that of "inconvenienced people who want to get out... I hope that it doesn't become more than that. I have no reason to think at this juncture that it will."

An unidentified Iraqi official told ABC news Tuesday that Americans in Iraq and Kuwait are "restriced" and would not be free to leave until the crisis has ended.

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U.S., Yugoslavia and Puerto Rico head for world basketball semis

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Defending champion United States rallied from a big deficit while Yugoslavia and Puerto Rico coasted to easy victories Tuesday in the World Cup Basketball Championship. All three seemed assured of advancing to the semifinals.

Brazil, Australia and Argentina were knocked out by consecutive losses in the three-game quarterfinal round. Brazil was defeated by Greece, 103-88; Australia by the United States, 79-78; and Argentina by Puerto Rico, 92-76.

Semifinals are set for Friday. The final is Sunday.

Australia's loss was a heart-breaker. Led by Andrew Gaze's outside shooting and Luc Longley's rebounding, the team stretched a four-point halftime lead to 13 points with only seven minutes to go in the game.

But the United States scored 22 of the next 30 points, taking its first and only lead of the second half when Lee Mayberry stole the ball and scored on a layup with just over one minute remaining. The United States dribbled out the clock.

"We just gave the game away," Australia coach Adrian Hurley said. "There were two teams out there. One kept its composure to the end... this would have been our greatest moment. But the other side was too good."

U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski acknowledged his inconsistent team, undefeated in five games, escaped by the slimmest of margins.

"Anytime you win a game like that, you're very lucky," he said. "The team blew a 22-point lead against Argentina the night before, but held on to win, 104-100. The defending champions needed overtime to subdue a stubborn Greek team in the preliminary round last week."

Victory was diminished by the flare-up of Billy Owens' back injury. The starting forward who averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds during the qualifying round played 55 seconds and left the game. He may not take part in the match against Puerto Rico.

Yugoslavia virtually clinched the semifinals on the shooting and ball-handling skills of Toni Kukoc. The top draft pick of the Chicago Bulls in the U.S.-National Basketball Association tallied 21 points, five rebounds and four steals.

"We just didn't play very well. I don't know why," said reserve forward Luiz Felipe. A big reason was Pano Giannakis, the sharpshooter and playmaker who finished with 35 points, 14 assists and three steals. Every time Brazil closed to within a few points, it seemed, Giannakis would sink a three-pointer or tally a basket or assist on a fast break.

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Goodwill Games sponsor loses \$44 m

ATLANTA (AP) — Turner Broadcasting System Inc., sponsor of the Goodwill Games, said Tuesday it lost \$44 million on the games, but a spokeswoman said it was too early to write the games' obituary.

TBS Chairman Ted Turner said during the recent Goodwill Games in Seattle that the quadrennial international sporting event could lose \$26 million, twice what had been projected. That fueled speculation that the games, which Turner developed in 1985 to foster better relations between nations, might be doomed.

The first Goodwill Games, in 1986, lost \$26 million. "We've been saying all along that the board (of directors) will review the games at a future date, and will make a decision (on whether to cancel the games)," said Kithie Riggall, a TBS spokeswoman.

"They will review these numbers as well as the games themselves as to the value to the cable (television)

industry, the gains it made with the athletic community. There are several things to look at," she said.

Turner said earlier this month he expected the board to decide by the end of September whether to continue TBS' involvement in the Goodwill Games.

TBS lost \$31 million on the games in the second quarter, wrote off \$3 million in the first quarter and took a \$10 million loss related to the event in 1989.

The loss on the Goodwill Games "masked the better-than-planned performance of our ongoing operations," Turner said in a statement.

The company posted a total second quarter loss of \$8.3 million.

The loss on the games included a failure to deliver audience level guarantees to advertisers who bought advertising time on the TBS Superstation cable television network, which televised the games. Turner said it would provide compensatory advertising

time for future programming on its other cable TV networks, which include the Cables News Network (CNN).

For the second quarter overall, the \$8.3 million loss compared to earnings of \$5.5 million in the same period last year.

The Goodwill Games were Turner's 1986 brainchild to bring Soviet and U.S. Olympic-class athletes together after both nations led Olympic boycotts in 1980 and 1984. The United States led the 1980 boycott of the Moscow summer games after the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, and the Soviets retaliated by leading a boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles summer games.

The Goodwill Games bring together the top eight individuals or teams from around the world every four years in a competition sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee. The games alternate between the United States and Soviet Union, with both countries guaranteed positions in the meets.

No. 3 seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina swept past Halle Cioffi of the United States, 6-2, 6-0, while fourth seed Zina Garrison of the U.S. downed Argentina's Bettina Fulco 6-0, 6-4.

In other second-round action at the Manhattan Country Club Tuesday, fifth-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria overpowered Dinky Van Rensburg 6-1, 6-1; sixth-seeded Mary Jo Fernandez eliminated Claudine Toia of New Zealand 6-2, 6-2; ninth-seeded Amy Frazier beat Tami Whittinger 7-5, 6-3, and Stephanie Rehe upset 15th-seeded Gigi Fernandez 6-3, 6-3.

In first-round matches Tuesday, 11th-seeded Laura Gildemeister of Peru overpowered Alicia May 6-0, 6-1; Peanut Louie-Harper upset 12th-seeded Gretchen Magers 6-4, 6-1; Anne Smith eliminated Donna Faber 6-2, 6-2; Renata Baranski of Poland ousted Elise Burgin 6-3, 6-2; Kathy Rinaldi topped Nana Miyagi of Japan, 6-3, 7-6; Amanda Coetzer of South Africa, beat Cecilia Dahlman of Sweden 6-3, 6-1; Rosalyn Fairbank-Nideffer ousted Monique Javer 7-6, 6-3, 6-6, and Andra Keller advanced when Patty Fendick pulled a leg muscle in the second game of the second set. Keller had won the first set 6-3.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world behind Steffi Graf of West Germany, needed only 51 minutes to eliminate Graham

Navratilova overpowers Graham in Los Angeles tournament

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova, playing for the first time since injuring her left Achilles tendon last week, overpowered Debbie Graham 6-1, 6-2 in a second-round match of the \$350,000 Virginia Slims of Los Angeles Women's Tennis Tournament.

Navratilova was hurt while practicing for a tennis tournament in San Diego and was forced to withdraw. She showed no ill effects of the injury in beating Graham, who won the U.S. collegiate singles championship while playing for Stanford in May.

The match was the first for Navratilova since she won the singles championship at Wimbledon in June.

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Navratilova, ranked second in the world behind Steffi Graf of West Germany, needed only 51 minutes to eliminate Graham

in the first round of the tournament. Navratilova, who won the U.S. collegiate singles championship while playing for Stanford in May, was forced to withdraw. She showed no ill effects of the injury in beating Graham, who won the U.S. collegiate singles championship while playing for Stanford in May.

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Beckenbauer still eager for U.S. World Cup post

BONN (R) — Franz Beckenbauer, who coached West Germany to their World Cup triumph last month, hinted again Wednesday that he was eager to be involved in the staging of the 1994 finals in the United States.

Calling the U.S. an "ideal" country for the World Cup, Beckenbauer told the West German magazine Sports: "The infrastructure is right, the stadiums are wonderful — everything is perfect."

Beckenbauer, who stepped down as West German coach after the Italy finals, was reported last week as saying he had reached agreement to work for the U.S. Soccer Federation (USFF) and the 1994 World Cup.

The USFF denied the deal. But the second declaration of firm interest in a week from the 44-year-old "Kaiser," who normally keeps his plans under wraps, increased speculation that he could be close to signing up for the Americans, probably as technical director.

The link-up, coming at a time when the U.S. is increasingly being questioned as a World Cup venue, could be a fruitful one. Although soccer enjoys some success as a participant sport among U.S. youth, it has failed to make any mark with the country's

all-important television-viewing public. And the Americans, who unnerved the soccer world last month by suggesting some cup games might be played indoors, know they could fend off criticism by engaging one of the biggest names in the history of the game.

Beckenbauer met key American sports figures on a trip to the U.S. two weeks ago. He said he believed the 1994 finals could succeed if they had the right organizers.

"To organize the World Cup you need a consortium," he told the magazine. "You need people like Peter Ueberroth, who organized the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. You need people like Henry Kissinger, who has connections."

"You can't have anything better than working with these people. The financial success would be secured."

Earlier this month the USFF elected Alan Rotherberg, the architect of the successful soccer tournament at the Los Angeles Games, as its new head.

Rotherberg's candidacy had been backed by the International Football Federation (FIFA), which had been concerned about the slow pace of preparations for the 1994 competition.

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Malivai upsets Lendl

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — No. 1 seed Ivan Lendl, rusty from a post-Wimbledon layoff, was upset by unseeded Malivai Washington Tuesday in the second round of the Volvo International Tennis Tournament.

Washington, who left the University of Michigan last year to turn professional, took only 73 minutes to beat Lendl 6-2, 6-3.

Washington had not previously beaten a player ranked in the top 25 of the Association of Tennis Professionals tour. But Washington said he wasn't intimidated going against Lendl on Centre Court before a crowd of 11,000.

"You can't go out and say, 'I'm playing Ivan Lendl, winner of so many tournaments.' You've just got to say you're playing a guy on the other side of the net," he said.

Washington, who lost his last three tournaments in the first round, is ranked 103rd in the world rankings. Lendl is second behind Stefan Edberg, who took

over the top spot last week. Lendl last played in Wimbledon, when he lost to Edberg in the semifinals.

"I didn't practice lately, and today just confirmed it," he said. "I didn't feel comfortable with my game at any stage."

Lendl said he could not give an appraisal of Washington's performance because, "I didn't push him."

Washington said the match would have been a lot tougher if Lendl had been in top form, but also said he wasn't playing his best.

In a first-round match earlier Tuesday, unseeded Jim Pugh, a top doubles player who has been struggling with a singles game, knocked off 10th-seeded Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Pugh, runner-up to Brad Gilbert at last year's Volvo International, said he had trouble concentrating in the first set, but settled down midway through the second.

Becker, Agassi advance in U.S. hardcourt tournament

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Top-seeded Boris Becker and second-seeded Andre Agassi had little trouble advancing to the third round of the U.S. Men's Hardcourt Tennis Championships.

Becker, the West German ranked third in the world, relied on his trademark serve and solid groundstrokes to defeat Brian Garrow of the United States 6-2, 6-4 in just over an hour.

Agassi needed 57 minutes to dispatch fellow American Robert Seguso 6-2, 6-3.

"It was a good match for me," Becker said. "Usually, it is more difficult in the first round, but I had a good start and played two good sets."

In the opening set, both players held serve through the first four games, but Becker gained the advantage by breaking at love in the fifth game after Garrow double-faulted. Becker then held, broke again and took the set on a forehand winner that dipped under Garrow.

Becker, Agassi advance in U.S. hardcourt tournament

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY AUGUST 16, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: One of your best days to look into whatever you do not understand to get to the truth of the situation and to attend to whatever obligations are outstanding in your life.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Seek out those friends and acquaintances who are very up to date in their views and expressions and let them direct you how to obtain your desires.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Consider whatever you want to do to bring your career and credit conditions up to date and then make plans at once to implement these goals.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A comparative newcomer in your life has the answers that will resolve some doubt in your mind how you can push ahead in a new undertaking.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Consider well what you can do to bring your present business arrangements up to date so they can be handled with greater ease.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You can make your mark in the world in some unusual manner now so forget your being tied down to the outmoded and bring yourself up to date.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Now is the day for you to search out from every possible media for the answers by which

you can get far more of a constructive nature done at your usual activities.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Depart from the usual and find some pleasures and amusements that can take away any burdens and bring you a feeling of release and happiness.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your house needs more zip and zest in it and less fixed modes of procedure and this is a splendid day to loose these advanced improvements.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Consider all persons with whom you have communications or messages to send to and put some original to your correspondence to impress them.

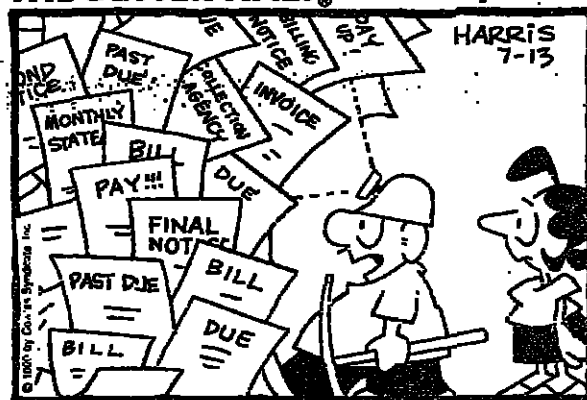
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Do those things which will enhance the value and appearance of whatever property you are possessed and to make your future more secure.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to just be yourself and do the things that appeal to you the most after getting yourself dolled up in your best finery.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Whatever private aspirations you have now can be made to operate in your behalf by taking a positive attitude where they are concerned.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'm going in to look for the gas bill. If I'm not back in four hours, send help."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arpaud and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEGIN

LAKBY

CLOMPY

ZARWID

Answer: THEY WERE THAT

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOTIF LINGO FUMBLE ADRIFF

Answer: How the farmer turned sailor continued to make his living—OFF THE LAND

(Answers tomorrow)

THE Daily Crossword by Jeanné Wilson

ACROSS

1 Castle feature

5 Fat

10 — the Boss?

14 A.D. word

15 Morning prayer

16 Mail

17 Coral ridge

18 — give me anything but...

20 Lab gel

21 Feline feast?

22 Tus

24 Alias

25 Nav. off.

26 Feline fun?

28 Humorous

32 Plane

33 precursor

34 One or another

34 Cheese

36 New

37 Thought: frolic?

44 A Barrymore

45 Miles of movies

Iraq threatens OPEC if it raises oil output

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Iraq Tuesday threatened to retaliate against Venezuela and other OPEC nations if they increase their oil output to replace blocked supplies from Iraq and Kuwait.

Iraq's ambassador to Venezuela, Majid A. Al Samarra'i, announced that Iraq viewed raising oil production "an act against the Iraqi government," adding that "those who take action against us will suffer damage."

He did not say what sort of retaliation Iraq had in mind.

Samarra'i spoke at a news conference and said he was relaying a message from his government.

He portrayed Washington's dispatch of U.S. troops to the Middle East as an American plot to destroy the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and to seize control of Middle East oil itself.

The envoy said Iraq was acting in the interests of OPEC, which was expected to meet in emergency session this week.

"Any attempt by any member OPEC nation to increase its production quota will mean support of the United States plan, and will bring harm to all," Samarra'i said.

He asked OPEC nations to demonstrate "solidarity" against the Bush administration by refusing to raise production.

"The United States doesn't want to defend the people of Kuwait. Iraq is doing it," he said.

There are 13 nations in OPEC, including Iraq and Kuwait, and the organisation thus far has made no move to suspend either nation from the group.

OPEC oil ministers are to meet at a time and place not yet announced to decide what course OPEC should take in regard to millions of barrels in blocked Iraq-Kuwait oil production.

Whether Iraq and Kuwait will take part was not known.

Iraq and Kuwait together account for 20 per cent of the world's oil reserves.

Lending to Third World falls sharply

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) — Lending by commercial banks of Western industrial countries to Third World nations declined in the first quarter at an unprecedented pace.

In a survey released Wednesday, the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said the claims on these countries contracted by \$23 billion to \$700.9 billion, by far the largest quarterly decrease ever recorded.

At the same time, the BIS said, Third World deposits with Western commercial banks continued to increase by \$11 billion to \$585.2 billion. New deposits by China, \$5.1 billion, accounted for almost half of the total while new borrowing by China increased by \$1 billion.

The decline in outstanding claims occurred mainly in Latin America. The survey said the decrease totalled \$18.6 billion, more than in all of 1989. The sharpest contraction, by \$14 billion, was recorded for Mexico, a result of the March agreement with its creditors.

The statistics showed that the widely anticipated shift of lending resources to the emerging East European democracies did not materialise. The Western banks' exposure to these countries shrank fractionally by \$100 million to \$97.8 billion.

Interbank lending in the developed area continued at a markedly slower pace. This "reporting area" includes the Group of Ten industrialised countries with Switzerland plus Luxembourg, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Bahamas, Bahrain, Cayman Is-

lands, Hong Kong, Netherlands Antilles, Singapore, and by the branches of U.S. banks in Panama.

Total cross-border claims totalled \$48.7 billion, down from \$176.4 billion in the previous quarter. The interbank market between European countries made an exception, increasing from \$38.5 billion to \$73.7 billion.

Total net international financing rose \$105 billion in the first quarter to \$3,627 billion, a slowdown from the \$139 billion net expansion in the fourth quarter.

This slowdown stemmed from a decline in growth in the interbank market and a contraction in volume of new syndicated credit facilities because of fewer mergers, the BIS said.

Japanese banks in the first quarter reduced their activity in the international market because of downturns in the yen, the Tokyo stock market, and in yen bond prices, the BIS said.

U.S. banks cut their interbank positions with other financial centres, possibly reflecting a sharp reduction in their exposures to debtor countries. The external assets and liabilities of banks in the U.S. fell by \$47 billion and \$36 billion, respectively, the sharpest contractions ever recorded, the BIS said.

It said the reduction of U.S. banks' international involvement was partly due to the implementation of the Mexican debt agreement. But it also pointed to "the growing caution of banks at a time of greater perceived vulnerability of the U.S. financial system."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Food prices soar in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Panic buying sparked by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has doubled the price of rice and sugar and sent the cost of other necessities soaring in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), merchants have said. Merchants said people in the Gulf country were stockpiling basic foodstuffs and other necessities despite government assurances there would be no shortages. They said the cost of a kilogramme of rice and sugar had doubled, to 3.3 dirhams (90 cents) and 2.2 dirhams (60 cents). Prices of other consumer goods have also risen sharply. The ministry of economy and commerce said earlier this week the UAE had enough food to meet demand for six months. Traders said people were still hoarding, afraid imports may suffer if Western warships succeed in blockading Iraqi trade. Ministry sources said officials fanned out to the markets to stop hoarding and price manipulation and punish violators.

Iraq, Kuwait owe S. Koreans about \$1b

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean construction companies operating in Iraq and Kuwait are owed \$992 million in overdue payments, officials have said. The construction ministry said Iraq owed \$927 million and Kuwait owed \$65 million. Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. and several other Korean contractors are currently working on nine projects worth \$1.4 billion. Construction Minister Kwon Yong-Gack has told a national assembly committee the ministry told Korean contractors to refuse new contracts in Iraq and Kuwait and complete ongoing projects quickly in view of high business risks and dangers for Korean workers. Kwon said there were about 900 Korean workers in the two countries. Hyundai reportedly has decided to evacuate its Korean workers from Kuwait and Iraq as soon as the situation permits.

UAE warns moneychangers

ABU DHABI (R) — The central bank of the United Arab Emirates has warned local moneychangers not to manipulate the exchange rates of Gulf currencies. It said currency dealers or exchange shops that do not accept the currencies of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, would be shut. "You are advised to continue to accept and trade in the currencies at normal exchange rates," it said in a circular. The warning followed complaints that some moneychangers raised currency rates after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Fears rocked the local financial community, sending the dirham as high as four to one U.S. cash dollar from 3.68.

Iran, Turkey to increase transport links

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Iran have signed a draft agreement here to increase their air links and road transport across their common border, transport officials said. Under the protocol flights between Istanbul and Tehran will increase from four to six a week and a new air route will open between Istanbul and Tabriz. The officials said road transport capacity would more than double to 900,000 tonnes by the end of this year from 418,000 tonnes between January and July, and compared with 35,000 tonnes in the first of 1989.

Aeroflot to start flights to Nepal soon

KATHMANDU (R) — The Soviet airline Aeroflot will start a weekly flight from Moscow to Kathmandu via Dubai Aug. 25, airline officials have announced. They said it was hoped the flight would attract low budget travellers from Europe to the Himalayan kingdom, where tourism is the biggest hard currency earner. Aeroflot will be only the third airline to operate between Europe and Kathmandu. Royal Nepal Airlines has a twice weekly flight from London via Frankfurt and Dubai, and Lufthansa flies once a week from Frankfurt via Karachi.

Bangladesh restricts sale of gasoline

DHAKA (AP) — The government has announced that gas stations will remain closed every Friday, the weekly holiday, to restrict consumption of gasoline. A statement issued by the government said the move was approved at a cabinet meeting, where it was decided to cut down consumption of petroleum because of the crisis in the Gulf. Bangladesh imports two million tons of crude oil every year to meet its demand for petroleum. Most of the imports are from the Gulf. Crude oil prices rose worldwide after Iraq attacked and annexed Kuwait last week. Prices are expected to rise further because of a United Nations embargo prohibiting trade with Iraq.

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ILO finds inflation rising in many states

GENEVA (R) — Inflation is rising in two out of every three countries surveyed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) despite a decade of efforts to control it.

The ILO, a United Nations agency, has said that countries with steadily rising inflation in the first few months of 1990 included Sri Lanka with 22.6 per cent compared with 15.1 per cent last December, Hungary 26.8 per cent (18.1 per cent), Sweden 10.1 per cent (6.6 per cent), Chile 24.8 per cent (21.4 per cent) and Britain 9.4 per cent (7.7 per cent).

An analysis of consumer price indices of 99 countries for 1989 showed that inflation rates in 67 of them were higher than in the previous year, while 27 recorded lower rates.

Argentina topped the list with a 1989 hyperinflation rate estimated at 4,924 per cent, compared with 387.7 per cent in 1988. Peru followed with 2,775 per cent (1,722 per cent), while Yugoslavia recorded 2,599 per cent (243.5 per cent) and Brazil 1,973 per cent (980 per cent).

Nine nations — Tanzania, Mexico, Syria, Gambia, India, Norway, Panama, Malta and Malawi — reduced inflation in 1989 for the second consecutive year.

Gold price fails to sparkle over crisis in Gulf

LONDON (R) — It's a sign of the times that gold, traditional friend of investors when the going gets tough, has responded so feebly to the Gulf crisis.

A decade ago, it surged to record levels which still stand when Soviet troops went into Afghanistan.

The U.S. embassy hostage crisis in Tehran and rising oil prices also helped propel gold to an all-time high of \$850 an ounce at the beginning of 1980.

But, since Iraq invaded Kuwait, the metal has put on only about \$26 to around \$400 an ounce at mid-afternoon Wednesday. Trading has been volatile and at one point Tuesday it briefly touched \$416.

"There has been some disappointment in gold's performance," said Euan Worthington, head of the mining department at London Brokers Warburgs. "But it has done better than stock markets in the past few weeks."

Nevertheless, the bullion market has been acutely sensitive to the Gulf crisis, albeit so far in a fairly staid way, dipping as more peaceful sounds come out of Baghdad, and firming as the region flirts with outright war.

"Depending on what happens in the Middle East, gold can go further," Worthington said.

He said there were several reasons why gold had failed to respond dramatically to events in the Middle East, including the simple fact that there are many more types of investments available on the market now than there were 10 years ago.

At the time, and historically, gold still appealed to an age-old instinct to hold something safe, tangible and portable as opposed to the abstraction of paper investment.

"Real interest rates are much higher — money in the bank can earn 12 to 15 per cent. That's a fairly attractive option when gold doesn't yield anything," Worthington said.

A high level of physical gold supplies — due in part to heavy production encouraged over last decade by a robust gold price — has also held the metal back in recent times, he added.

Higher mining output was one reason why gold dropped to \$285 in the mid-1980s. But overall the investment climate for the metal has improved considerably since it hit a four-year closing low of \$346.25 in London on June 14.

"Investors would be well advised to hold some gold as insurance. Not so much in the expectation that the price will rise, but that the value of other investments will fall," said Robert Weinberg, head of mining at London brokers James Capel.

He said there was a lot of resistance to the price moving above \$420 to \$425, but it was hard to predict bullion's future course given the uncertainty in the Gulf.

Weinberg said gold was underpinned by concern about recession in the West. Hard times would leave less flexibility for authorities to raise interest rates to choke off inflation which would be fanned by higher oil prices.

Dollar drops

LONDON (R) — The dollar touched a record low against the mark in European afternoon trading Wednesday, dealers said.

It was quoted at 1.5530 marks at 1330 GMT, its lowest since the Deutschmark was introduced in 1948, and down from its 1.5568 previous low set during Tokyo trading earlier in the day.

Dealers said dollar weakness was due to market expectations that U.S. interest rates would have to be cut to prevent the U.S. economy slipping into recession. Lower interest rates make dollar-denominated investments less attractive.

Concern about Congress's failure to come up with a plan to cut the huge U.S. budget deficit is also a problem, exacerbated by the hard to quantify cost of sending thousands of U.S. military personnel to the Gulf following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, dealers said.

Higher oil prices as a result of the invasion are expected to add to U.S. inflationary pressures.

Chart analysts and dealers all expected the dollar to fall further still, with many citing 1.52 marks as a target. Some say it would be round that level already if it had not had some support from safe-haven buying at the start of the Gulf crisis.

Economic data at 1315 GMT in Washington showing U.S. industrial production unchanged in July when it had been forecast to rise 0.1 per cent nudged the dollar lower still.

Sudan Islamises banking

KHARTOUM (AP) — The government Tuesday abolished all forms of interest in Sudan's domestic finances in accordance with Islamic rules.

Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Hamdi said that external dealings will remain as usual under the international financial system.

Hamdi was quoted by the Sudan News Agency as saying that the new system is based on the "Islamic financial system, which does not encourage the use of interest in its dealings."

This move will abolish interest on loans made by the government to public corporations and employees. Instead of dealing in interest, financiers will now share profits or losses with their customers, as stipulated by Islam.

"If it is not possible to implement any of the Islamic systems of profit sharing, then the loans would be made free of interest," Hamdi said.

It was not clear if banks would continue to pay interest to depositors or if they would also be asked to adopt the profit sharing system.

U.S. companies said doing 'business as usual' in M.E.

WASHINGTON (R) — Outside of Iraq and Kuwait, U.S. firms seem to be doing business as usual in the Middle East despite the tensions there, Americans familiar with the region said Tuesday.

One said there had been some banking problems in the Gulf, but they had been resolved.

J.R. Abinader, President of the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, said there were problems in exchanging some Middle East currencies in London, but the issue of liquidity was more psychological than real.

He told a news conference "as far as they are concerned they may have liquidity problems in the physical presence of cash, but in terms of reserves, in terms of collateral, the situation has stabilised."

A U.S. government official and several businessmen said normal business was being conducted in the Gulf, but Abinader disputed their assessments.

"Business as usual is not their feeling," he said.

Don Demarino, deputy assistant secretary of commerce for Africa, the Near East and Asia, said he was concerned about the liquidity problem but the banks

there were capable of handling business transactions.

Demarino said there had been extensive withdrawals from Saudi banks "but we're seeing that tapering off."

He said, "we don't see any evidence that business has been disturbed. I have not sensed any kind of panic."

Two-way trade with Saudi Arabia in 1989 was \$9.4 billion, with a U.S. deficit of \$1.8 billion, chiefly oil purchases.

U.S.-United Arab Emirates trade was \$1.3 billion, but with a U.S. surplus of \$133 million. U.S. exports that included cars, construction equipment and office machinery offset American purchases of oil.

Bush threatens spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush said Tuesday he will impose across-the-board government spending cuts unless congressional Democrats compromise with him on a budget.

"I feel I kept my share of the bargain," Bush said at a news conference. "Now it is up to the Democrats who control Congress."

The president met with financial advisers at the White House Tuesday.

Bush said he had done everything he could, referring to his abandonment of his "no new taxes" campaign promise, to get the three-month-old budget talks moving.

But he said the Democrats were dragging their feet at the talks while passing budget-busting legislation.

Of the 10 appropriations bills approved so far by the House, eight exceeded his request, Bush said. In addition, Congress is considering legislation for public financing of congressional elections.

Bush promised to use his veto pen in both areas.

The Gramm-Rudman budget law calls on the president to impose across-the-board spending cuts if the fiscal 1991 deficit is exceeded. That now appears certain, with the latest administration figures showing \$100 billion in cuts will be needed to reach the \$64 billion target.

Bush said he would carry out the mandate if there is no budget agreement.

"They (the Democrats) will bear heavy responsibility for the consequences," he said.

Jet fuel prices soar

NEW YORK (R) — As a growing number of U.S. jet fighters fly to the Middle East, the government is being forced to battle U.S. airlines and the Japanese for available jet fuel supplies, trade and industry sources say.

Demand for jet fuel has soared due to the sharp expansion of U.S. military operations, coupled with nervous airline and Japanese stockpiling. This has led to a 25 per cent jump in jet fuel prices to about 75 cents a gallon (3.8 litre).

"I don't think there's any question. No one wants to be caught short of jet fuel," said Ed Tolle, president of United Aviation Fuels Corp., wholly owned by UAL Corp. "And I think there has been a fair amount of forward buying by the airlines."

Malaysia raises oil output

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — The government-owned National Petroleum Corporation (Petronas) has increased its oil crude production by 10,000 barrels a day, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Wednesday. Wednesday's cabinet meeting decided that half of the daily additional volume would be for Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, August 15, 1990 Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	125.3	126.1
U.S. dollar	656.0	660.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	444.0	446.7
Pound Sterling	1248.4	1255.9	Dutch guilder	373.6	375.8
Deutschmark	620.6	623.1	Swedish crown	114.3	115.0
Swiss franc	504.6	507.6	Italian lira (for 100)	57.4	57.7
			Belgian franc (for 10)	203.4	204.6

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.9015/25	U.S. dollar	1.1430/35
One U.S. dollar	1.5390/95	Canadian dollar	1.7563/75
	1.3030/40	Dutch guilder	32.05/15
	32.05/15	Swiss francs	5.2330/80
	5.2330/80	Belgian francs	114.5/1146
	114.5/1146	French francs	147.72/82
	147.72/82	Italian lire	5.7425/75
	5.7425/75	Japanese yen	6.0520/70
	6.0520/70	Swedish crowns	5.9510/60
One ounce of gold	401.73/403.25	Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

Cinema

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

Nabila Obeld — Salah Gabeel
in
THE DANCER AND THE POLITICIAN
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

Dured Lahham
Madeline Tabar
in
KAFROUN
2:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45
ONCE BITTEN
\$15 only



Cinema

PHILADELPHIA

Tel: 634144

Nabila Obeld — Farouq
Al Fishawi — Farid
Shawql
in
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.



Cinema

NIJOUN

Tel: 675571

Nabila Obeld — Farouq
Al Fishawi — Farid
Shawql
in
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:45 and 10:45 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.



Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 699238

Amr Diab
in
AI Afark (THE DEVILS)
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



2 bomb blasts kill 11 on Indian Independence Day

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Suspected Sikh militants punctured a heavy security blanket thrown over India's Independence Day celebrations Wednesday to explode two bombs that killed 11 people.

But Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, speaking under the shadow of three separatist uprisings, said defiantly he would not yield to secessionist violence.

"The time has come to decide who is with India and who is not," he said in an Independence Day speech from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort in Old Delhi hours after a bomb killed five people.

It went off near a temple in north west Delhi just before midnight as several thousand people were making their devotions on the birthday of Lord Krishna, one of the major gods in the Hindu pantheon.

Police said five people were killed and 23 wounded, four of them seriously.

Shortly after Singh declared "there will be no compromise with those who challenge India's unity," another bomb went off, this time in Punjab.

Police said six people were killed, including two women and a girl, when a bomb exploded on a bus.

They said Sikh militants fighting for a separate homeland in Punjab they call Khalistan (land of the pure) were suspected of planting both bombs.

More than 3,000 people have been killed this year in secessionist campaigns in three border states, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam.

"It is a tragedy that the forces of secessionism have raised their ugly heads in these states," Singh said.

Singh, whose minority government took power nine months ago, said he wanted to redress injustices that led to the uprisings.

"But we will subdue the terrorists with force of arms," he said in a 15-minute speech.

Tens of thousands of security men were on duty in the three states in anticipation of trouble as India entered its 44th year of independence from Britain.

In Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, the authorities allowed a dawn to dusk break in the curfew that has been in force for much of the past eight months.

Residents shunned the relaxation and called their own curfew, staying at home to ignore subdued Independence Day celebrations involving about 500 officials in a 35,000-capacity stadium.

Singh appealed for popular support for the fight against militants, comparing the struggle to that of Vietnam during years of warfare and the long siege of Leningrad by German forces during World War II.

"Today, the country faces a second battle for independence," he said, adding that violence threatened the country's democratic system.

Singh also appealed for an end to sometimes violent protests against his controversial decision to lift the reservation of government jobs reserved for low caste, outcaste and tribal people from about 22 per cent to more than 40 per cent.

"Those who have got nothing so far have to be given something, or the tears of the poor can turn into swords of fire which can bring down the palaces of gold," he said.

New missile tested

Heating up a simmering border dispute, Singh Wednesday indicated he was willing to die at the Pakistani frontier and announced that India successfully test-fired a new missile.

"I am ready to go to the border myself. It is better to die on the border than to see from New Delhi the violations of our frontier," Singh said.

On Monday, Pakistan said its armed forces repulsed an Indian attack a day earlier along the ceasefire line in the disputed state of Kashmir. India denied any major clash took place.

Singh said India test-fired what he called a medium-range surface-to-air missile called Akash, which means sky in the ancient Sanskrit language. He did not say when it was fired.

Defence experts said it is capable of intercepting and destroying high-and low-flying aircraft. United News of India said the missile has a range of about 24 kilometres.

It was fired from the test range at Chandipur in Orissa state, about 1,200 kilometres southeast of New Delhi.

India, which has the atomic bomb, has test-fired four other missiles. In May 1989, its scientists fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of 2,400 kilometres.

American senators want free elections in Pakistan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A dozen senators have asked President George Bush to condition future U.S. aid to Pakistan on the holding of free, open elections within the next 90 days.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government, which has been plagued by charges of corruption, was dissolved by the country's president. The move on Aug. 6 ended the 20-month rule of the first woman ever to lead the government of a Muslim nation.

New elections have been scheduled for Oct. 24, and Bhutto has vowed to seek to return to office. She charged that her dismissal, provided for under the country's constitution, was improperly engineered by the military.

Pakistan is receiving \$582 million in U.S. aid this year, the bulk of it military and security assistance. A State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the United States assumes that elections will be held as planned and be free and open.

"We assume that the commitments made by the government will come about, and that international observers will be allowed" for the elections, the official said.

The senators, led by Sen. Edward Kennedy, said Bhutto's dismissal was "an extraordinarily high-handed intervention against a democratically elected government."

Taken with the army's seizure of the state-owned television station and telephone system and a declaration of a state of emergency, the developments "believe claims of a democratic, civilian transfer of power," the group wrote.

The group said free elections, open for full participation by Bhutto and others and free from intimidation, are essential to future good relations with the United States.

"United States aid to Pakistan should be conditioned on a clear commitment by the leaders of that nation to respect the principles of democracy," the senators wrote.

Others signing the letter included Sens. Nancy Kassebaum, Mark Hatfield, Claiborne Pell, Paul Simon, John Kerry, Paul Sarbanes, Bill Bradley, Dennis Deconcini, Tom Harkin, Brock Adams and Alan Cranston.

Meanwhile Pakistan's caretaker prime minister, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, vowed Tuesday that elections promised for October would not be delayed by probes into corruption charges against Bhutto's sacked government.

Many Pakistanis are cynical of promises by Jatoi and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to hold elections on Oct. 24.

But Jatoi, in an Independence Day speech on television justifying his takeover, said: "I want to make it clear that elections will not be delayed by accountability."

After Ishaq Khan dismissed Bhutto's government last week, Jatoi accused it of being the most corrupt in Pakistan's 43-year history and said nobody suspected of abuses would escape.

"When we took control of government offices we found burned records," he said Tuesday. "Despite that a lot of proofs of corruption are available."

At an Independence Day reception in Rawalpindi he told reporters special tribunals were almost ready to start work after corruption allegations had been sifted.

But he said Benazir Bhutto was free to go to London.

East German CDU suspends top official in Stasi scandal

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's governing Christian Democratic Union (CDU) led by Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, was on holiday and could not be reached for comment.

Deputy CDU Chairman Horst Korbella said in a statement that Korbella was being relieved of party duties pending "clarification of the accusations against him."

Earlier Wednesday, the West German weekly magazine Stern said Korbella was one of the most important informers for the Stasi security police before the Stasi regime was toppled by a pro-democracy uprising late last year.

Stern quoted three former Stasi agents as saying Korbella, previously a prominent Protestant church official in the southwestern Thuringia region, was a long-time paid informer for the dreaded Security Ministry.

The East German church harboured human rights activists who spearheaded last year's popular revolution.

The East German CDU was a Communist satellite party for 40 years but after the 1989 uprising it wooed out leading Stasi collaborators in favour of democratic reformers and wound up winning East Germany's first free elections in March.

"The CDU... acknowledges the accusations against Mr. Korbella with great concern. He is suspended from his office as general secretary with immediate effect pending clarification of the accusations against him," Korbella said.

He said Korbella was on a camping holiday abroad and could not be located to answer the accusations.

24 rebels, 9 troops die in Sri Lankan clashes

COLOMBO (AP) — Naval boats have destroyed four dinghies ferrying Tamil Tiger rebels, killing 24 guerrillas, and the rebels Wednesday fatally shot nine soldiers, military officials said.

The government, meanwhile, denied reports that between 75 to 85 Tamil civilians were killed by unidentified attackers in eastern Sri Lanka Monday.

"Nothing like that happened," said Brigadier Upali Senewiratne, the top military officer in eastern Batticaloa district. "This area is under my command and I should know."

The independent Sun newspaper after wave of professional and ethnic groups found themselves targets of Stalin's persecution — farmers, engineers, priests, scientists, even Stalin's allies.

Solzhenitsyn drew the anger of Moscow by publishing books such as the Gulag Archipelago and First Circle which documented life in the camps.

At its recent congress, however, the Communist Party rejected proposals for a formal declaration of guilt and responsibility for crimes committed since the 1917 revolution. Delegates argued that today's Communists could not be held responsible for the past.

Where official accounts in the 1960s and 1970s of the Stalin period spoke of "mistakes" and "errors," Gorbachev has fiercely denounced the dictator and allowed the excavation of mass graves of his victims throughout the country.

But Gorbachev, who joined the party in 1952, a year before Stalin's death, has stopped short of a direct formal apology in the name of the party.

Radicals also criticise him for failing to raise the question of millions summarily executed by the Cheka secret police or jailed during the early years of the revolution while Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin was still alive.

Gorbachev's latest decree, however, could help thousands of people still isolated from their families after leaving the country. Under Leonid Brezhnev, they were tarred as traitors and mercenaries by the Soviet press.

The parliamentary journal Information Bulletin of the Soviet Parliament formally announced Wednesday that citizenship had been restored to Alexander Zinoviev, writer of satirical novels such as Yawning Heights, which lambasted totalitarian thinking in the Soviet Union.

Parliament also returned citizenship to academic Zhores Medvedev, who is now living in London.

Both decisions had already been reported in the press.

4 injured in Peru attack

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Police blame pro-Cuban rebels for a car bomb explosion near the government palace that injured four passersby.

President Alberto Fujimori was meeting with advisers when the bomb went off late Monday. The explosion shattered windows in the residential area of the building, blew a metre-wide crater in the sidewalk and knocked small chunks of concrete from the wall.

Police blamed the attack on the pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. They said the car contained 22 pounds (10 kilograms) of dynamite.

Tupac Amaru rebels had fired two grenades at the palace on July 27, the night before Fujimori took office.

Also Monday, other car bombs exploded in the highland cities of Cuzco and Ayacucho, killing one person, police said. The attacks ended a relative lull in political violence that had followed Fujimori's inauguration.

One man died and at least 17 people were wounded in the blast in Cuzco, a tourist centre in Peru's Andean Mountains 565 kilometres south east of Lima, police said.

The bomb exploded in front of an army barracks, one block from a leading tourist hotel. No tourists were hurt in the explosion, though four soldiers were among the wounded, police said.

Police said the attack was probably carried out by the Maoist Shining Path rebel movement.

The Shining Path rebels exploded 22 pounds (10 kilograms) of dynamite before dawn Tuesday in a car in the centre of Ayacucho, a highland city 375 kilometres south east of Lima, police said.

No one was injured in the blast, which broke windows and damaged buildings. Two other bombs exploded in Ayacucho earlier Tuesday, police said.

In other violence in Ayacucho in recent days, Shining Path rebels killed a student and a farmer in separate attacks, police said.

Shining Path rebels also killed three village officials near the city of Huazac, police said. Huazac 285 kilometres north of Lima, is a popular destination for mountain climbers.

The rebels staged a trial of the three men in the plaza of a small village and then killed them each with a shot to the head.

The military communiqué issued Tuesday said clashes between a Peruvian army patrol and leftist guerrillas left three soldiers and 40 guerrillas dead, a military spokesman said Tuesday night.

The communiqué said the fighting took place on Aug. 2 in the coca-rich Upper Hualaga Valley, 500 kilometres northeast of Lima.

More than 19,000 people have died in political violence in Peru in the past 10 years.

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